



**10 WOMEN WHO  
RULED ANCIENT EGYPT**



**Cold War thriller: How the CIA  
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# HISTORY

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ISSUE 55 // MAY 2018 // £4.99



THE ROYAL WEDDINGS OF

## HENRY VIII

Alison Weir unveils the secrets behind  
six days that shaped England



**THE 'OTHER'  
GUNPOWDER PLOT**

The little-known 1820  
conspiracy to kill the Cabinet

**WOUNDED KNEE**

How the shooting of Sitting  
Bull led to a massacre of  
Native Americans

**A WOMAN ON  
THE FRONT LINE**

Vogue photographer  
Lee Miller's World War II





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Princess Margaret's marriage to Antony Armstrong-Jones was the first televised royal wedding



# I do, I do, I do, I do, I do, I do...



While every detail of the imminent wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle has been anticipated and analysed for months, the multiple nuptials of his Tudor namesake are less familiar. Indeed, the weddings of Henry VIII remain matters of supposition and conjecture. It is something of a curiosity that so little is known of these six days that in some ways defined the

reign of England's most famous monarch. We knew that if anybody could shed any light on these days of union, it would be Alison Weir, and her cover feature on page 28 is the next best thing to a place on the guestlist.

More incredible stories from under the radar elsewhere this month include a cracking yarn about how the CIA tried to steal a Soviet nuclear submarine at the height of the Cold War (p50); and a foiled London plot to kill the Prime Minister and his Cabinet (p58). We also turn our attention to conflict, with the massacre at Wounded Knee among the most affecting stories we've ever run.

Do write in and let us know your thoughts on these and any of our other great stories this issue!

**Paul McGuinness**  
Editor

*Paul*

**Don't miss our June issue, on sale 20 May**

## CONTRIBUTORS



**Alison Weir**  
One of the biggest-selling history writers in the UK,

Alison has written many books about the Tudor dynasty, as well as our cover feature. See page 28



**Roger Hermiston**  
Formerly of BBC Radio 4's flagship *Today*

programme, Roger now writes about the past. He traces an attempted coup in London. See page 58



**Richard Overy**  
The award-winning historian's latest

book tells the story of the birth of the RAF a century ago, so we caught up with him about it. See page 86

## THIS MONTH WE'VE LEARNED...

**49**

Condemned men and women reprieved when parliament voted to end the death penalty in 1956. The House of Lords didn't pass the bill and hanging resumed in 1957. See page 18.

**£250m**

The equivalent in today's money that George IV spent on renovations to Windsor Castle. He died 18 months after works were completed. See page 84.

**20**

The number of Medals of Honor awarded to US soldiers at the massacre of Wounded Knee, at which as many as 300 Native American men, women and children were slaughtered. See page 40.

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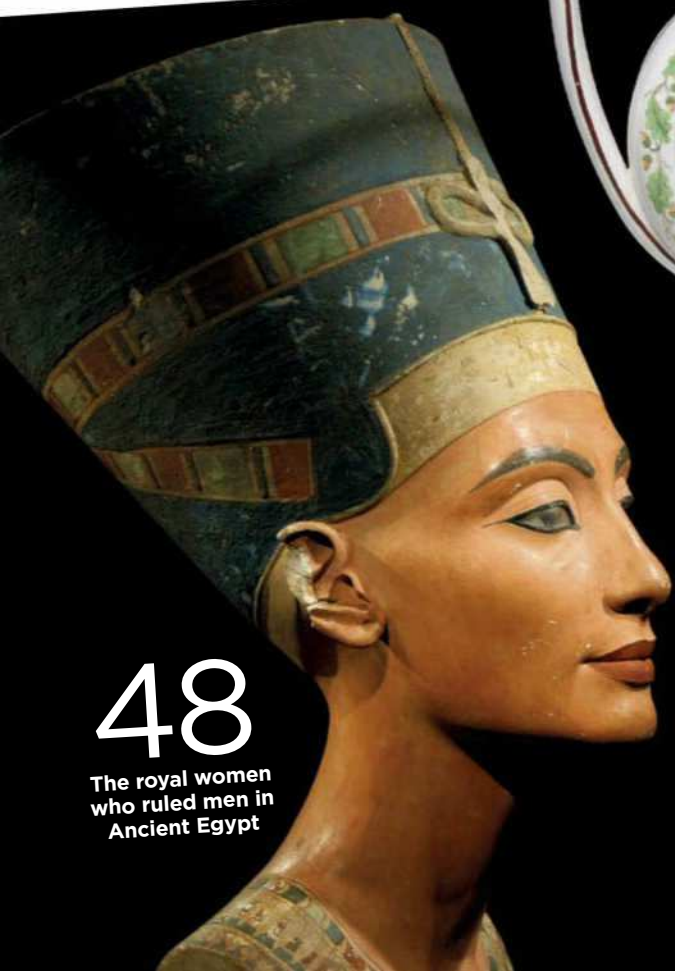
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# 28 HENRY VIII'S ROYAL WEDDINGS

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MAY 2018

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# 1952 STAND AND DELIVER... EQUAL PAY

While the black masks suggest a highway robbery may be taking place, members of the Equal Pay Committee aren't demanding your money or your life: just for their own wages to be fair. The meeting they are advertising includes long-time campaigners for women's rights, such as Edith Summerskill, a qualified doctor since 1924 and an MP for 23 years. If only the fight for equal pay was as swift as an actual highway robbery.

TOP PHOTO







**EQUAL PAY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

# **JUSTICE FOR WOMEN**

**Equal Pay for Equal Work  
The Rate for the Job**

**SPEAKERS—**

**THE RT. HON.**

**Dr. EDITH SUMMER**

**Miss IRENE WARD**

**Mrs. CLEMENT**

**Mrs. THELMA CAZALET-KEIR, C.B.E.  
(CHAIRMAN)**

**FRIDAY, 9th MAY: 7 p.m.**  
**CENTRAL**

**EQUAL PAY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

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**CENTRAL**







# 1957 SHOTS AT DUNKIRK

Hundreds of men in uniform wait patiently on the beaches – this time, not for a miraculous rescue from Dunkirk, but for director Leslie Norman to get a take. Camber Sands in East Sussex stands in for northern France as he shoots 1958 film *Dunkirk*, the epic telling of the evacuation of nearly 340,000 troops of the British Expeditionary Force and their allies in 1940. Far from the propaganda shorts that Ealing Studios produced for the Ministry of Information during World War II, the film has a poignant resonance with audiences for whom the disaster-turned-victory is still vivid in the memory.





# 1947 THE PENNY DROPS

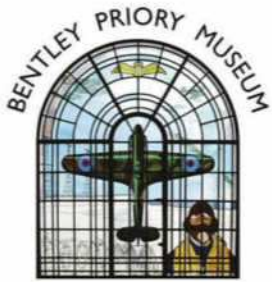
The city of Oxford has more than its fair share of strange traditions. Every Ascension Day, the congregations of two churches process through the streets and mark the parish perimeter by beating boundary stones with willow sticks. The group from St Michael at the Northgate then ends up at Lincoln College to watch as undergraduates at the top of the tower throw down pennies for local schoolchildren to gather. As can be seen with these choirboys in 1947, the risk of being hit on the head by falling coppers (which at one time were heated first) won't stop a scramble.

TOP PHOTO









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Image by Angela Ithyle



Giving you a fresh perspective on the events and findings from history

## HISTORY IN THE NEWS



Farm work appears to have been a common role for women in the Tudor and Stuart eras

### TUDOR AND STUART WOMEN BROUGHT HOME THE BACON

Not all women in the early modern period were slaves to dusting

**T**udor and Stuart women didn't only manage households and take care of the children – experts at the University of Exeter have uncovered that around 40 per cent of agricultural work was performed by women, as well as half of all work selling goods and managing finances.

Jane Whittle, professor of economic and social history at Exeter, who led the project, says: "It's very likely that women in early modern Britain worked longer hours than men, but it has been very hard to find exactly what their contribution was. Women's work is often dismissed by historians as

being 'mainly domestic', without investigating the actual tasks undertaken by women inside or outside the home."

According to previously ignored records, childcare, cleaning and cooking took up less than one-third of a woman's time between 1500 and 1700. Much of the work carried out by women at these times was unknown as it was unpaid or was on small farms without records.

But, by looking into other sources, such as coroner's reports and quarter sessions exams, they found that women ploughed fields, and made and transported

goods, as well as looking after the family home.

Dr Mark Hailwood from the University of Bristol, who was also involved in the project, says: "Women's work was an essential element of the early modern economy, but it was hidden because their roles were often not recorded in official records."

Professor Whittle suggests that with this new information, we need to "challenge assumptions" of women's roles in the economy of the past as they did more than just housework and childcare.



#### SIX OF THE BEST...

The ghost towns lost to time....p14



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Hanging gets short shrift in parliament.....p18



#### THIS MONTH IN... 1420

Henry V claims the crown of France .....p20



#### TIME CAPSULE: 1781

Significant events from one year in history ..... p22





IN THE NEWS

## LOST GLENCOE SETTLEMENTS TO BE EXCAVATED

The destroyed villages may unearth hidden stories from the massacre

Archaeologists are set to investigate the lost Scottish villages that were destroyed during the infamous Glencoe Massacre of 1692, during which at least 38 members of Clan MacDonald were murdered by government troops after their chief failed to meet his deadline to pledge allegiance to King William III. What makes the massacre even more notorious is that the soldiers who carried out the killing had been staying with their intended victims for nearly two weeks, enjoying their hospitality.

On 13 February, commander Robert Campbell gave the order to “put all to the sword” in Glencoe. A Scottish parliament investigation found that the massacre was a punishment and warning to rebellious Highlanders.

Preliminary surveys have been carried out by the National Trust for Scotland with more thorough investigations of the glen to follow. The former townships of Achtriachtan,



An unknown number of clan members perished as they fled the killing

Achnacon and Inverrigan will be the main focus of the excavations. By the 19th century, the settlements in the glen had all but disappeared from official documents, with the land being used for sheep farming. Derek Alexander, head of archeology at the Trust, says: “This is an iconic landscape and what we are trying to find are the physical remains that tie that landscape to the story of the massacre.”

It's unknown how many more people died fleeing the massacre or froze to death in

the treacherous Highlands. Alexander says: “Once you start to look at the massacre from a landscape point of view, you can plot the sequence of what happened and see how many people managed to get away.”

Even though it occurred more than 300 years ago, the atrocity is still felt throughout Scotland – you can still find ‘No Campbells’ signs dotted around pubs near Glencoe. The massacre is said to be one of the inspirations for the infamous Red Wedding featured in *Game of Thrones*.

## SIX OF THE BEST... GHOST TOWNS

Our pick of the most mysterious abandoned towns and villages in Britain



### 1 HIRTA, ST KILDA, SCOTLAND

The residents of this remote settlement on the island of Hirta asked to be moved to the mainland in 1929 after so many of them perished from harsh weather and smallpox.



### 2 IMBER, WILTSHIRE

In November 1943, the residents of Imber were forced to leave in preparation for the Allied invasion of Europe. They were not allowed to return and it's now a military training ground.



### 3 HALLSANDS, DEVON

Once home to more than 160 people, this coastal village started to erode when the beach was dredged, leaving it exposed to the elements. A storm destroyed most of the homes here in 1917.



### 4 MORETON, SOMERSET

Increased demand for drinking water led to the village of Moreton being evacuated in 1950 so a reservoir could be created. It's now completely submerged under Chew Valley Lake.



### 5 KENFIG, BRIDGEND

Originally a Bronze Age settlement, the encroaching sand made living in Kenfig difficult. The village was relocated inland in the 13th century – all that remains are the castle ruins.



### 6 WHARRAH PERCY, NORTH YORKSHIRE

A well-preserved example of a deserted medieval village. Evictions, the plague and the decline of arable farming saw the residents abandon it by the 16th century.



# TIME PIECE

A look at everyday objects from the past

## LAI D TO REST

All the Ancient Egyptians needed for a comfy night's sleep...

Imagine reaching the end of a long day, climbing into bed and resting your head... not on a soft pillow, but this Ancient Egyptian headrest. While this example, from the 18th Dynasty of the New Kingdom in the 14th century BC, is made of wood, similarly uncomfortable-sounding stone, ivory and marble variants were also used. This one features duck heads on the legs and the face of the god Bes, protector of mothers and children. Protector of neck cramps may have been more appropriate.



## PENSIONER INVESTIGATED FOR NAZI WAR CRIMES

A Belarusian who settled in the UK is now being investigated by Germany for alleged crimes during WWII

Pensioner Stanislaw Chrzanowski has become the first UK resident to be investigated by Germany for war crimes during WWII. Chrzanowski, who was unaware of the investigation, lived in Shropshire until his death last year. His alleged crimes focus on the murder of civilians in his home town of Slonim, Belarus. The case is being hailed as a unique breakthrough in the investigations of Nazi war crime.

Chrzanowski first caught the attention of authorities several years ago when his stepson gave a dossier of evidence to police, but this was dismissed as insufficient. The case was reopened last year by war crime prosecutors in Germany. Chrzanowski always denied that he was a war criminal.

**Chrzanowski arrived in the UK after being taken as a POW**





# HISTORY IN COLOUR

Colourised photographs  
that bring the past to life

## WAIT FOR ME DADDY, 1940

As Private Jack Bernard marches out on deployment with the Canadian Army's British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles), his five-year-old son Warren dashes forward for a last goodbye. They would be reunited after World War II, by which time this image had become famous.





# YOUR HISTORY

## Tracy Borman

The novelist and historian tells us why she shares Henry VIII's lament for Thomas Cromwell, and why James I's queen consort deserves more attention



Tracy Borman's debut novel, *The King's Witch*, is out in June, and her new biography of Henry VIII will be published in November.

**Q If you could turn back the clock, which single event in history would you want to change?**

Setting aside world wars and the like, it would have to be the execution of Thomas Cromwell in 1540. During the preceding decade, Cromwell had overseen seismic changes in the religious, political and economic life of the kingdom, and he still had so much more to achieve. A true visionary, he was one of the most brilliant men of the Tudor age. Henry realised this too late and was soon bitterly lamenting the death of his "most faithful servant".

**Q If you could meet any figure from history, who would it be?**

My all-time historical heroine, Elizabeth I. Her accession was seen as a disaster, yet she confounded the stereotypes of female sovereignty and made the English fall in love with queens. What I admire most is her extraordinary self-discipline: she sacrificed everything for her country. There is a delicious irony in the fact that her father, Henry VIII, was consumed by his desire for a male heir, yet it was his forgotten younger daughter who became the glory of the Tudor dynasty.

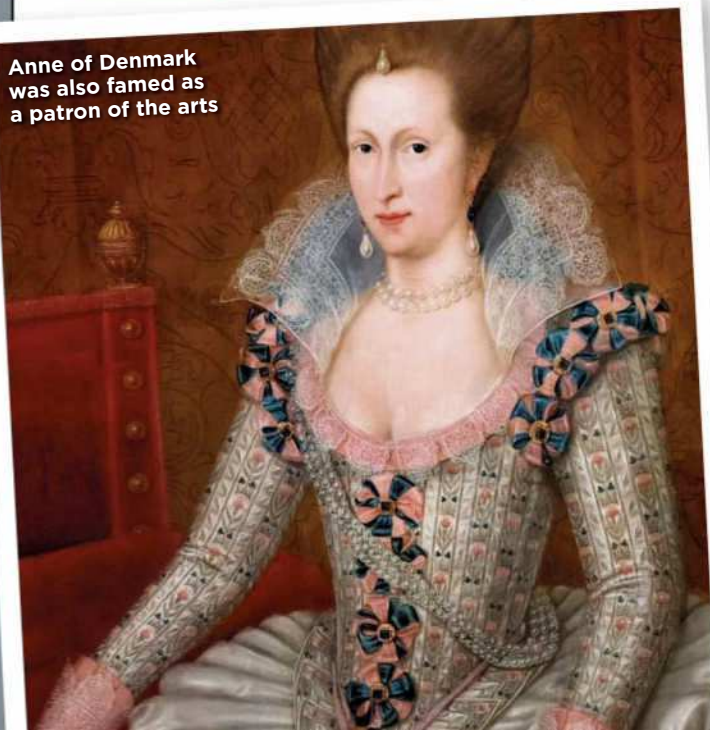
**Q If you could visit any historical landmark in the world tomorrow, where would you go?**

It would have to be the Scuole Grande di San Rocco in Venice. Although it is hard to choose just one landmark from the hundreds clustered on this tiny island, the Scuole is my favourite. Completed in 1560, the interior was decorated by the great Venetian artist Tintoretto. His series of religious paintings are of epic proportions, culminating in the monumental 'Crucifixion', which is so lifelike and dramatic that the wife of art critic John Ruskin is said to have fainted when she first saw it.

**Q Who is your unsung history hero?**

Anne of Denmark, queen consort of James I and VI. For over 400 years, she has been relegated to the sidelines, yet she was a woman of remarkable courage and strength. Married at 14, she adhered to the traditional duties of a royal wife by filling the nursery with heirs. But there is an altogether darker side to her story. Humiliated by her husband's homosexual liaisons, she defied him by secretly converting to Catholicism, and may have supported the notorious plot to destroy him and his government. Little wonder that she plays a prominent part in my new novel!

Anne of Denmark was also famed as a patron of the arts



**"Cromwell was one of the most brilliant men of the Tudor age"**



# NO MORE HANGINGS

## Wild cheers as debate ends

### RUTH ELLIS

One of the most dramatic moments in the debate came when an M.P. told of her "poor little son"—and the day she hanged.

See Centre Pages



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### The three condemned men hear by cell radio

**DAILY MIRROR REPORTER**  
THREE men in three condemned cells heard by radio last night that their lives are to be spared.

Each sat with a single earphone to his ear and heard the Commons decision during "Today in Parliament" in the Home Service at 10.45 p.m.

It was only a few months ago that the Home Office ordered the installation of radio sets in every condemned cell.

The three men are: Patrick Ross, 22, of Clapham, S.W., convicted of murdering an Indian, Akon Chandra Dutta.

William Edmunds, 21, of Pontilunfraith, Mon, sentenced for killing a woman of seventy; Robert James Doyle, 24, of Paisley, found guilty of suffocating a baby with a pillow.

By WILLIAM GREIG  
AFTER the most dramatic debate for years, the House of Commons told the Government last night: "HANGING MUST GO."

Amid wild cheers, by 293 votes to 262, a majority of 31, the M.P.s—

REJECTED the Government's advice to retain hanging but to change the law on murder.

Sir Anthony Eden, the Premier, told the Commons:

The House can be assured that the Government will give full weight at once to the decision taken by the House on a free vote.

I must add that we will at the earliest opportunity make a considered statement on the consequences which will flow from that.

The House will realise that it will be necessary to consider that statement for a day or two. But it will be the wish of the Government that there shall be no delay.

The Government decision is expected to be this: No legislation will be introduced now to abolish the death penalty, and reprieves will be granted automatically.

### Another Test of Opinion

Next session—that is, after October—a Bill will be brought in favouring abolition. This will test the opinion of the House again.

But few M.P.s believed after last night's vote that another man will be hanged in Britain in peace time.

The fateful vote was taken in an atmosphere of strange tenseness.

Cheering and shouting greeted the result. The anti-abolitionists called for a second vote—this time on the Back Bench proposal to abolish or suspend the death penalty for an experimental period. This was passed by 292 votes to 246—a majority of 46.

But the second vote was virtually meaningless as the House had already voted for ABOLITION of capital punishment.

● THE GREAT DEBATE BEGINS ON CENTRE PAGE.



### OUT OF A JOB

This is Albert Pierrepoint, Britain's No. 1 hangman. But now he is out of a job. . . .



# YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

Another timeless front page from the archives

## HANGING COMES TO AN END IN THE UK (BRIEFLY)

The death penalty would not be abolished for years, but support for hanging was, as it were, on the drop

The celebrations that followed the House of Commons vote to end centuries of the death penalty in the UK, in February 1956, turned out to be somewhat premature. The bill, put forward by long-time abolitionist Sydney Silverman, failed to pass through the House of Lords, so hanging returned the following year.

Nonetheless, that the bill had passed the Commons reflected how attitudes towards hanging had changed in the wake of World War II – with three high-profile miscarriages of justice, in particular, causing discontent to intensify.

### PUBLIC OUTCRY


Timothy Evans was hanged in 1950 for murdering his wife and infant daughter, only for the revelation three years later that his neighbour, John Christie, was a serial killer. Christie confessed to killing Evans' wife.

Three years later came Derek Bentley's execution for his involvement in the shooting of a policeman. The mentally undeveloped 19-year-old had attempted a burglary with a friend, the latter armed with a gun, when police caught up with them. Upon being told to hand over the weapon, Bentley called out, "Let him have it" – but was

he saying his friend should give up the gun, or shoot? The case was front-page news.

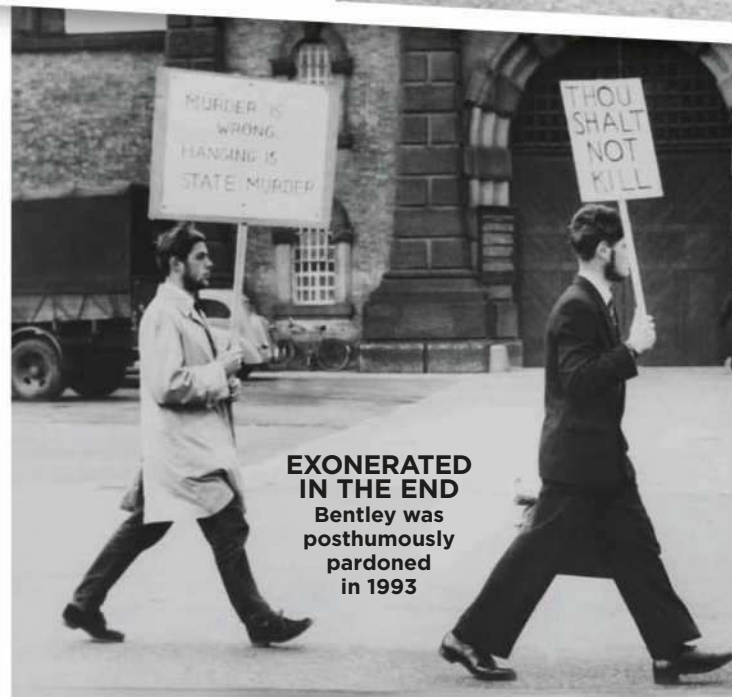
The greatest public indignation, though, came in 1955. A young woman, Ruth Ellis, had shot dead her abusive partner. Thousands signed a petition seeking a reprieve and, on the day of the execution, crowds of protestors gathered outside Holloway Prison, calling for an end to capital punishment.

So it was with genuine hope and expectation that the country welcomed the 1956 vote, with the *Daily Mirror* announcing that Albert Pierrepoint, dubbed by the Home Office as Britain's most efficient executioner, was "out of a job". Yet, regardless of what the papers said, there were to be more hangings.

The suspension, during which 49 condemned men and women were reprieved, ended in 1957, although the use of hanging was greatly restricted by the 1957 Homicide Act. It would not be until Labour came into power in 1964 that Silverman finally passed his bill and saw the death penalty suspended. MPs voted to make the abolition permanent by a large majority in 1969. 



**PSALM BEFORE THE STORM**  
Hymn-singing crowds became a regular sight outside prisons on the morning of an execution



**EXONERATED IN THE END**  
Bentley was posthumously pardoned in 1993



# THIS MONTH IN... 1420

Anniversaries that have made history

## HENRY V CLAIMS THE THRONE OF FRANCE

After his triumph at Agincourt, England's warrior king aimed to complete the conquest of the old enemy across the water

**T**he Treaty of Troyes, which established that Henry V of England and his heirs would succeed to the crown of France, was the prize for years of masterly military campaigning.


When he became King of England in 1413, Henry swiftly and ruthlessly quashed a series of internal threats so that he could focus on planning, funding and launching an attack across the English Channel. His enemy in chaos – 'Mad' King Charles VI of France suffered from bouts of insanity, including a belief he was made of glass – and with a supreme gift for tactics, Henry looked set to conquer.

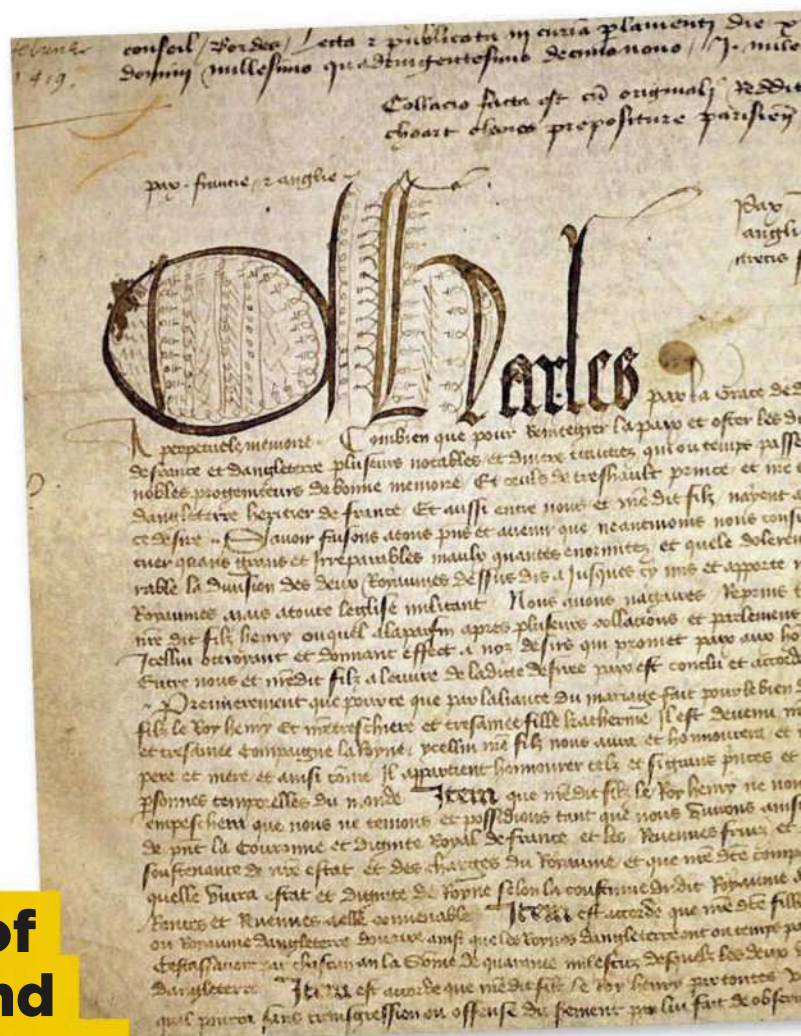
The port of Harfleur was captured in September 1415, followed a month later with a historic triumph at the Battle of Agincourt. Henry led his exhausted and outnumbered army into the fight and, thanks to the devastating use of the longbow, achieved a now-revered victory against the odds. It brought him prestige

and laid the foundations for a larger-scale invasion.

The conquest of Normandy continued from 1417. By the time Rouen surrendered two years later, Henry's position was strong enough to force Charles into agreeing to the Treaty of Troyes, which was sealed on 21 May 1420. Now regent of France, Henry married Charles's daughter, Catherine of Valois. When she gave birth to a male heir in 1421, England's dominion seemed secure.

But then, while on campaign yet again, Henry died suddenly on 31 August 1422. The sickly and unstable Charles had outlived him, just – he died a couple of months later. With the two crowns now in the hands of the infant Henry VI, the French dauphin (another Charles), who had been disinherited by the treaty, felt bold enough to claim his father's throne as his own.

It would be 1429 before the dauphin was crowned Charles VII. Even then, his eventual triumph required the intervention of a certain Joan of Arc. 



**“The crown and realm of France ... shall remain and abide and be of us and of our heirs for evermore”**

Text of the Treaty of Troyes

**THE SILENT PARTNER**  
The Duchy of Burgandy brokered the treaty, allying with England after the French assassinated Duke John the Fearless in 1419



**C**ōment le duc dorleans eut par  
l'ottroy du roy son frere la duchie dac  
quitaine. Et lors furent faictes treues  
entre le royaume de france et d'angle  
terre. **Chappitre. xxxiii.**



**SO NEAR, AND YET...**  
Charles VI and Henry V seal the  
treaty that could have ended the  
Hundred Years' War, had Henry  
not gone to an early grave



# TIME CAPSULE 1781

Snapshots of the world from one year in the past



When old enemies Britain and France faced each other in Jersey in 1781, it turned out to be among their shorter conflicts. French forces invaded the Channel Island, a base for British privateers, under cover of darkness late on 5 January and set up defensive positions in what is now St Helier's Royal Square without detection. They caught the island's governor, Major Moses Corbet,

literally napping – he was taken prisoner in bed and forced to sign an order for British troops to lay down their arms. Command fell to 24-year-old Major Francis Peirson, who refused to comply and attacked the greatly outnumbered French. The invasion ended in miserable failure, but not before Peirson fell from a musket ball to the heart.

**DEATH IN VICTORY**  
John Singleton Copley's famed painting shows Peirson fall at the moment of victory; his death galvanised the British attack



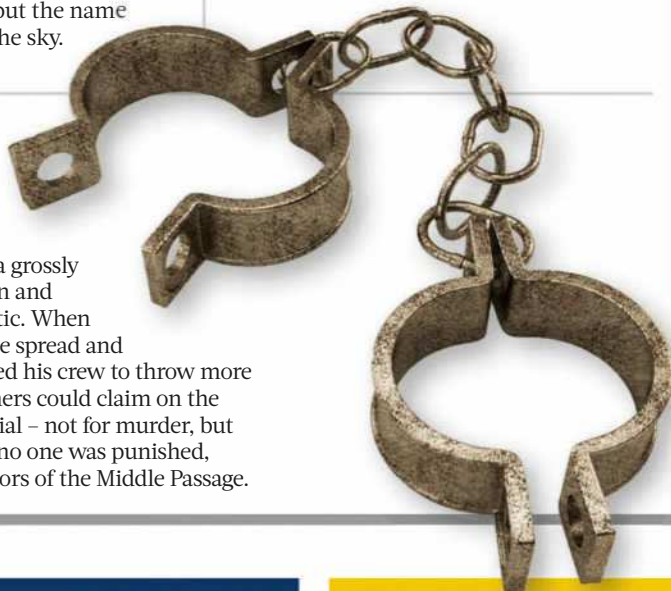


## HERSCHEL DISCOVERS URANUS

The seventh planet in the Solar System (and the first found since antiquity) was discovered by a musician who built his own telescopes. German-born and British-based William Herschel observed what he thought to be a comet on 13 March 1781, only to realise it was a planet, which he named Georgium Sidus in honour of King George III. He was knighted and made court astronomer, but the name would change to Uranus, the Greek god of the sky.

## SLAVES ARE TOSSED INTO THE SEA FROM THE ZONG

The British slave ship *Zong* sailed from Africa grossly overloaded with more than 400 men, women and children destined to be sold across the Atlantic. When the voyage took longer than expected, disease spread and drinking water ran low, so the captain ordered his crew to throw more than 130 slaves overboard. That way, the owners could claim on the insurance for lost 'cargo'. The case went to trial – not for murder, but because the insurers refused to pay. Though no one was punished, abolitionists used the event to show the horrors of the Middle Passage.



## SIGN OF THE TIMES

Erected in 1923, the iconic sign originally read 'Hollywoodland' – to promote a housing estate



## LOS ANGELES IS FOUNDED

Traditionally, the east-coast American city was founded on 4 September 1781 by 44 settlers from 11 families. In truth, this diverse group, the Pobladores, made the journey to the remote area throughout the year, as planned by Spanish governor Felipe de Neve. The settlement was called El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles, or The Town of Our Lady the Queen of the Angels, and started to grow. Today, Los Angeles has a population of nearly 12 million.

## ALSO IN 1781...

### JANUARY

William Pitt the Younger enters parliament as MP for Appleby. In 1783, aged 24, he becomes the youngest Prime Minister in Britain's history.

### 1 JANUARY

The 30-metre Iron Bridge spanning the River Severn in Shropshire opens. It is considered to be the first cast-iron bridge in the world.

### 12 OCTOBER

With Scottish culture under threat by the Highland Clearances, the first bagpipe competition is held in Falkirk. It becomes an annual event.

### 13 OCTOBER

Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II issues the Patent of Toleration, extending limited religious freedoms to non-Catholic Christians.

### 19 OCTOBER

The American Revolutionary War essentially ends with the British surrender at Yorktown, though peace is not agreed for another two years.

### 29 NOVEMBER

A group of friends meet at the King's Arms tavern in London and form the Ancient Order of Druids.

## DIED: 18 MAY

### TÚPAC AMARU II

The descendent of the last ruler of the Incas was executed for leading a rebellion against Spanish rule in Peru. After being betrayed, Túpac Amaru II was forced to watch his wife, son and other relatives die before his planned death of being pulled apart by horses. This failed, so the Spanish quartered and beheaded him.



## BORN: 6 JULY

### STAMFORD RAFFLES

The son of a merchant captain, Stamford Raffles was born aboard ship during a voyage from the West Indies. Travelling was in his blood – he joined the East India Company and, in 1819, founded a trading post in Singapore, which helped Britain establish its empire in the Far East. He later became the first president of London Zoo.





# GRAPHIC HISTORY

## THE DAREDEVILS OF NIAGARA FALLS

Going over in a wooden barrel is just the tip of an extremely ill-advised iceberg

**T**hree waterfalls make up Niagara, but it's this one, the cataract that separates Ontario in Canada from New York State, that is the most famous. Horseshoe Falls has a 792-metre brink, over which 680,000 gallons of water flow every second,

plunging 57 metres into the rapids below. Tourists have been flocking to see it for almost two centuries and it didn't take long for daredevils to spot a chance at overnight fame. Some even survived their attempts to tell the tale.

### FORSYTH'S ARK

The first tourist stunt came in 1827, and it was a cruel one: local hotel owner William Forsyth loaded a schooner with animals and sent it over the falls. None of the animals survived, beyond two bears that abandoned ship before the brink and some geese, which flew away.

### MAN ON A WIRE

In 1859, circus performer Jean François Gravelet - aka 'The Great Blondin' - became the first person to walk a tightrope across the Niagara Gorge, a little way downstream of the falls. The round trip took him just 23 minutes. It was a stunt he repeated often, adding a new twist each time: he did it shackled, on stilts, blindfolded, even dressed as a gorilla while pushing a wheelbarrow. On one occasion, he carried a stove to the mid-way point, then stopped and cooked an omelette.

### MAID OF THE MIST

The only way to safely see the bottom of the falls is on a boat tour. The first (and still the most famous) is the *Maid of the Mist*, which welcomed its first tourists in 1848.

**1928**

Jean Lussier dispenses with the barrel and goes over in steel-framed rubber ball. Surprisingly, he survives.

**1911**

Bobby Leach attempts to repeat Taylor's success using a metal barrel. He succeeds, but breaks both kneecaps and fractures his jaw.

**1901**

Annie Edson Taylor is the first person to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel, an airtight wooden one, and emerges with only a cut to the head. "If it was with my dying breath, I would caution anyone against attempting the feat," she later told the press. "I would sooner walk up to the mouth of a cannon, knowing it was going to blow me to pieces, than make another trip over the fall."

**1920**

The first fatal barrel attempt is that of Charles Stephens, who straps one arm to his wooden barrel and his feet to the anvil he is using for ballast. The anvil tears the barrel apart as he falls. Only Stephens' right arm, still fixed to fragment of barrel, is recovered.



**2017**

The most recent stunt was in 2017, when trapeze artist Erendira Wallenda hung over Niagara Falls from a helicopter, at one point holding on using only her teeth.

**1995**

Robert Overcracker launches himself from the brink on a jet ski, to raise awareness of homelessness. He intends to parachute to safety but, tragically, it fails to open and he perishes.

**1990**

Jessie Sharp makes a dinner reservation before kayaking over the falls without a helmet or life vest. He doesn't make it to dinner.

**1951**

William 'Red' Hill Jr attempts to make his name by going over the falls in what he called 'The Thing': an assembly of 13 inner tubes in a fishing net. It disintegrates, and Hill's body is recovered the next day.

**1930**

George Stathakis gets stuck in his barrel behind the falls for 14 hours and suffocates – but his 105-year-old pet turtle, Sonny Boy, emerges unscathed

**2003**

Kirk Jones is the first person to intentionally jump over the falls with zero protection and survive. He dies attempting to repeat the stunt in 2017.

**2012**

Nik Wallenda becomes the first (and so far, only) person to walk a tightrope stretched directly above the Horseshoe Falls.

**1951**

Stunting is made illegal in Niagara State Park without a licence, subject to a \$10,000 fine, though that does little to stop people trying.



# HISTORY

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ILLUSTRATION: JEAN-MICHEL GIRARD/WWW.THE-ART-AGENCY.CO.UK

Henry's marriages set the backdrop for his descent from a charming prince to a ruthless tyrant





THE ROYAL WEDDINGS OF

# HENRY VIII

Alison Weir looks back at the six  
'happy days' that preceded 'divorced,  
beheaded, died...'







Henry VIII and his first wife Katherine of Aragon, painted c1520. She was the widow of the King's late elder brother, Arthur

## KATHERINE OF ARAGON

Henry VIII's six weddings were all private. When, not quite 18, he became king in 1509, it was a matter of political and dynastic necessity that he marry and beget an heir as soon as possible, to ensure the continuation of the Tudor dynasty. Surviving members of the rival House of York arguably had a better claim to the throne than Henry, and the spectre of the Wars of the Roses still loomed large.

The new King's councillors urged him to marry Katherine of Aragon, the Spanish princess to whom he had been betrothed since 1503 and the widow of his late elder brother, Arthur, Prince of Wales. Katherine had a great dowry, and the prospect of war with France – England's hereditary enemy – made an alliance with Spain all the more desirable. Her father, King Ferdinand of

Aragon, was pressing Henry to marry her immediately, and promising him many political advantages if he did so.

But Henry hesitated. He was uneasy in his conscience, wondering if he would commit a sin by marrying the widow of his deceased brother, as such unions were forbidden in Scripture. King Ferdinand hastened to reassure him that the marriage would be perfectly lawful, as the Pope had given a dispensation for it. He felt certain that Henry would enjoy the greatest happiness with Katherine, and leave numerous children behind him.

The Privy Council also put pressure on the King. "We have the Pope's dispensation," they said. "Will you be more scrupulous than he is?"

Henry agreed that there were many good reasons for the marriage. Above all, he declared, he desired Katherine above all women; he loved her and longed to wed her. Despite her six years' seniority, he found her attractive, with her long golden hair and fair skin, her

Today, we associate royal weddings with great public celebrations, a grand procession, a magnificent ceremony in Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral or St George's Chapel at Windsor, and a public appearance on the balcony of Buckingham Palace. But this is not a tradition leading back down the centuries to England's most married monarch, Henry VIII, and beyond. The modern royal wedding, as we know it, dates only from 1840, when Queen Victoria married Prince Albert. Prior to that, royal weddings were usually private affairs, solemnised in the royal chapels with little public fanfare.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The early years of Katherine's marriage were marked by her constant promotion of her father's interests to the inexperienced Henry – to the great chagrin of the King's councillors



Katherine had frequent run-ins with Cardinal Wolsey, whom she found insincere and lacking in humility



**Thomas More penned a suite of poems to mark the marriage; he would remain a great friend to Katherine, united by their shared religious conservatism**

## “WHAT HENRY FELT FOR HER SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN LOVE IN ITS MOST CHIVALROUS FORM”

dignity, lineage and graciousness.

Everything about her proclaimed her a fit mate for the King of England.

What Henry felt for her seems to have been love in its most chivalrous form, coupled with deep respect. And honour demanded that he marry her and, like a knight errant of old, rescue her from the penury in which his father had kept her, and so win her love and gratitude. It was a grand gesture that appealed vastly to the King's youthful conceit.

### HAPPY BEGINNINGS

One day in early June, 1509, the King arrived at Katherine's apartments in Greenwich Palace. He came alone, dismissed her attendants and, raising her from her curtsy, declared his love for her, and asked her to be his queen. Without hesitation, she joyfully agreed.

They were married on 11 June, the feast day of St Barnabas, in the Queen's closet at Greenwich, with William Warham, Archbishop of Canterbury,

officiating. Katherine wore virginal white, with her long hair loose under a gold circlet.

After the nuptials, the small wedding party proceeded to the chapel of the Observant Friars adjacent to the palace to hear Mass. There is no record of Henry and his new Queen being publicly put to bed together, as was generally the custom, but there was never any doubt that the marriage was consummated that night, for Katherine became pregnant immediately.

If, as the evidence strongly suggests, she had emerged from her first marriage *virgo intacta*, the chances are that Henry too was a virgin on his wedding night. There is no suggestion in any source that he was sexually active before his accession. He had led an almost cloistered life, closely supervised by his father and his tutors, and it is likely there had been no opportunities for dalliances with girls.

The marriage of Henry and Katherine was proclaimed four days later, on 15 June. On that same day Katherine first appeared at court as Queen of England.

She had adopted as her personal badge the pomegranate, a symbol of fertility since ancient times, and yet she failed to bear Henry the son he needed to ensure the succession. Of her six known children only one, the Princess Mary, survived infancy. At that time, it was unthinkable that a woman should rule England and wield dominion over men. By 1524, it was known that the Queen would bear no more children, and by 1526, Henry had fallen passionately in love with her maid-of-honour, the vivacious, accomplished and ambitious Anne Boleyn.

In 1527, Henry began to voice doubts that his marriage to his brother's widow was lawful, and asked the Pope for an annulment, only to be kept dangling in hope for the next seven years. By then, frustrated and alienated, he had broken with Rome and declared himself Supreme Head of the Church of England, and Thomas Cranmer, his new Archbishop of Canterbury, had declared Henry's union with Katherine null and void, and confirmed his marriage to Anne Boleyn. Henry had not waited for the formalities.





Contemporary accounts don't paint Anne as a great beauty, but as sallow-skinned and swarthy

## ANNE BOLEYN

The precise date of Henry's marriage to Anne is a matter of dispute. A Milanese envoy in France thought that they had married during their visit to Calais in October 1532, but the chronicler Edward Hall claimed: "The King, after his return, married privily the Lady Anne Boleyn on Saint Erkenwald's Day, which marriage was kept so secret that very few knew of it." The feast of the translation of St Erkenwald fell on 14 November, the day after Henry and Anne returned to England, but it is highly unlikely that they wed while journeying through Kent towards Eltham Palace, especially in view of the testimony of two people who were much closer to events than Edward Hall.

"The King's marriage was celebrated, it was reported, on the day of the conversion of St Paul (January 1533)," the Imperial ambassador wrote on 10 May 1533, while Archbishop Cranmer stated, in a letter dated 17 June 1533, that Anne was "married much about St Paul's Day last, as the condition thereof doth well appear, by reason she is now somewhat big with child".

Hall, who revered Henry VIII, would not have wanted to imply that the daughter Anne bore on 7 September 1533, had been conceived out of



**"ANNE'S FAILURE TO BEAR A SON LAID HER OPEN TO THE MACHINATIONS OF HER ENEMIES, WHO DID THEIR BEST TO EXPLOIT HENRY'S INCREASING INTEREST IN JANE SEYMOUR"**



wedlock. His dating of the wedding to the previous November was either based on incorrect information or was a tactful, deliberate error. There can be little doubt that it was the discovery that Anne might be pregnant that prompted the King to pre-empt the Pope and marry her.

## A SECRET CEREMONY

Just before dawn on 25 January 1533, a small group of people gathered in Henry's private chapel in Whitehall Palace for his secret wedding to Anne.

"It has been reported throughout a great part of the realm that I married her, which was plainly false," Cranmer protested, "for I myself knew not thereof a fortnight after it was done." The officiating priest was either Dr Rowland Lee, one of the royal chaplains, or George Brown, Prior of the Austin Friars in London.

Possibly the priest was informed that the Pope had sanctioned the marriage; a royal envoy had just returned from Rome, leading some to suspect that the

### DID YOU KNOW?

After her marriage was declared unlawful, Katherine was moved into retirement away from court. Incensed, her nephew, the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, refused to recognise Anne as Queen.



Pope had given his tacit consent. As far as Henry was concerned, he had never been lawfully married at all and was free to enter into wedlock at will.

The few witnesses were all sworn to silence. The marriage, and Anne's pregnancy, remained strictly guarded secrets until Easter Sunday 1533, when, "loaded with diamonds and other precious stones", she went "in royal state, openly as queen" to her closet to hear Mass, with 60 maids of honour

**Anne's path from spouse stealer to jilted wife is oft-explored in TV and films, like *Wolf Hall***

following her. Having at long last won her King, she had adopted for her motto the legend 'The most happy'.

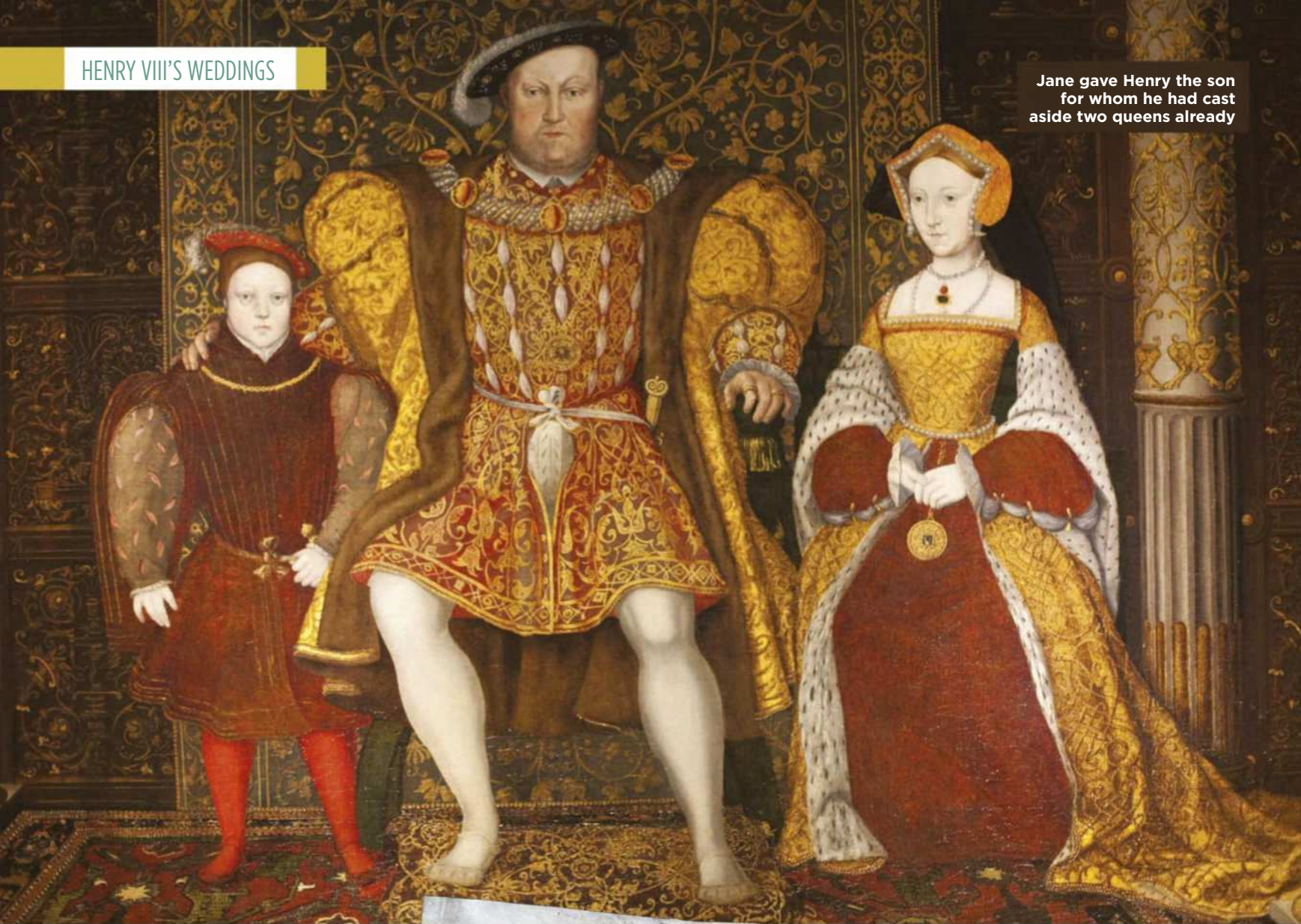
Her marriage lasted little more than three years. Her failure to bear a son laid her open to the machinations of her enemies, who did their best to exploit the King's increasing interest in Anne's maid-of-honour, Jane Seymour. Accused of betraying Henry with five men, one her own brother, and plotting to assassinate him, she was beheaded on 19 May 1536. >



Anne arrived at court as maid-of-honour to Katherine, and quickly impressed herself on the increasingly ardent Henry



Jane gave Henry the son for whom he had cast aside two queens already



## JANE SEYMOUR

Henry VIII was at Whitehall Palace when the Tower guns signalled that he was a free man. Immediately, he had himself rowed to Chelsea, where Jane Seymour was waiting. Their affair had been gathering momentum since the autumn.

The Privy Council had already petitioned Henry to venture once more into holy wedlock, pleading the uncertainty surrounding the succession, for both the King's daughters had been declared bastards. A speedy marriage was both desirable and necessary, and on the day Anne's head fell, Henry's imminent betrothal to Jane Seymour was announced to the Council. At nine o'clock the next morning, they were formally betrothed at Hampton Court in a ceremony lasting a few minutes.

Henry and Jane were married on 30 May at Whitehall Palace. The



ceremony took place in the Queen's closet, with Archbishop Cranmer officiating. Afterwards, Jane sat enthroned under the canopy of estate in the presence chamber. Some thought it strange that, "within one and the same month that saw Queen Anne flourishing, accused, condemned and executed,

another was assumed into her place, both of bed and honour".

Jane died in October 1537, after presenting Henry with his longed-for son, Edward. He mourned her deeply, but 'framed his mind' to marry again for the good of his realm.

The dispensation permitting Henry to marry Jane, barely seven months after they met; Anne had waited seven years



## ANNE OF CLEVES

After a long search for a suitable bride, Henry decided upon a German princess, Anne of Cleves. It was a political alliance, made to counterbalance that made between the Holy Roman Emperor and the King of France, which left Henry isolated in Europe and needing the friendship of the German princes.

But when he saw Anne, he knew he could never love her. He did everything he could to wriggle out of the contract, but in vain, and on 6 January 1540, he reluctantly prepared himself for his wedding at Greenwich Palace.

"Is there none other remedy, but that I must needs, against my will, put my neck in the yoke?" he growled. Nevertheless, he dressed magnificently for his wedding in a furred gown of cloth of gold with great flowers of silver, "his coat crimson satin slashed and embroidered, and tied with great diamonds, and a rich collar about his neck".

When his chief minister, Thomas Cromwell, who had arranged the marriage, attended him in his presence chamber, Henry muttered, "My lord, if it were not to satisfy the world and my realm, I would not do that I must do this day for none earthly thing."

### I LIKE HER NOT

Informed that his bride was coming, he proceeded to the chapel gallery. At eight o'clock, Anne appeared, sumptuously attired in "a gown of rich cloth of gold set full of large flowers of great Orient pearl, made after the Dutch fashion round, her hair hanging down, which was fair, yellow and long; and on her head a coronal of gold replenished with great stone". She was bedecked with sprigs of rosemary, which symbolised love, fidelity and fertility, and about her neck and waist were costly jewels.

Preceded by Cromwell, and walking between the German envoys with a most demure countenance, she made three low curtsies to Henry, and together they proceeded into the Chapel Royal, where Cranmer was waiting to perform the ceremony.

The King made no protest. Both he and Anne answered freely that they knew of no impediment to the marriage. On her finger, he placed a ring engraved with the motto 'God send me well to keep'.

After Cranmer had blessed them and wished them a fruitful union, Henry and his new Queen went hand in hand into the King's closet to hear Mass. Cranmer

gave the kiss of peace to Anne, upon which the King in turn kissed and embraced her. Afterwards, they were served wine and spices.

Thus "passed that day honourably". The newly wedded pair were ceremonially put to bed together to do their dynastic duty. The marital bedstead had an oak headboard with erotic carvings of priapic and pregnant cherubs, but they had little effect on Henry. The marriage was not consummated.

The next morning, the King complained to Cromwell that he "abhorred" Anne. "Surely, my lord, as ye know, I liked her before not well, but now I like her much worse, for I have felt her belly and her breasts, and thereby, as I can judge, she should be no maid, which so strake me to the heart when I felt them that I had neither will nor courage to proceed any further in other matters."

He made similar complaints to other courtiers, on many occasions. Possibly he was only saying what he believed to be the truth. Most likely he wanted an excuse for not consummating the marriage, so that it could be annulled without difficulty as soon as grounds could be found. As indeed they were, and in July 1540 it was dissolved. >



After the annulment, Anne was referred to as 'the King's Beloved Sister'



Henry accepted Anne on the basis of this portrait, but it was painted from the most flattering angle



# BRITISH ROYAL WEDDINGS THROUGH HISTORY

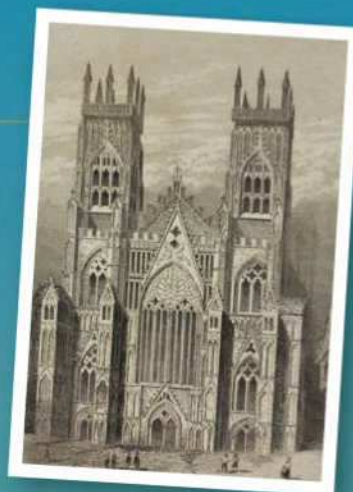


◀ The first royal to be married in Westminster Abbey was Henry I in 1100. It has hosted over a dozen royal weddings since, most recently that of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

1100

1328

▶ Edward III chose York Minster for his wedding to Philippa of Hainault in 1328, even though it was still being built and had no roof. The king got a white wedding of sorts, as it snowed during the ceremony.



Edward IV kept his marriage to Elizabeth Woodville a secret, as she was a widow and commoner. The exact date of their 1464 wedding is still debated.

1464

◀ The teenage Princess Augusta really didn't want to go ahead with the planned marriage to the Prince of Wales, Frederick, in 1736. While on the way to the ceremony, she pleaded with her mother, "Please don't leave me", and was sick immediately afterwards.

1503

Henry VII considered a marriage between James IV of Scotland and his daughter, Margaret – a five-year-old. She was betrothed (by proxy) in 1502, when she was 12 years old. Margaret didn't meet her husband until the following year.

1736

▶ The oldest surviving royal wedding dress belonged to Princess Charlotte, daughter of George IV, who married Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld. It cost over £10,000 (around £400,000 today).

1816

We have Queen Victoria to thank for the white wedding dress. Although not the first to wear white, her wedding to Albert on 10 February 1840 set the bar that all other brides had to match. Before then, any colour could be worn, including the rather funereal black.

1840

The future George VI proposed three times before Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon agreed to marry him. The wedding took place in 1923, and it was made a public event to lift national morale in the wake of World War I.

1923

▶ There has been no shortage of scandalous royal match-ups, but when Edward VIII announced his desire to wed Wallis Simpson, twice divorced already, it led to a constitutional crisis. In 1936, Edward abdicated the throne.

1936



1947

▼ The first royal wedding to be televised was in 1960, when Princess Margaret, the Queen's sister, married photographer Antony Armstrong-Jones.

1960



◀ Elizabeth II's wedding cake was a towering nine feet high, over four tiers – enough for all 2,000 guests to have a slice.

1981

▶ Diana Spencer was so nervous at her 1981 wedding to Prince Charles that she mixed up his name during the ceremony, calling him 'Philip Charles'.





## KATHERINE HOWARD

**B**y then, Henry had fallen for a pretty 19-year-old brunette, Katherine Howard. She was a niece of the Duke of Norfolk, England's premier Catholic peer. Norfolk and his party had put her in the King's path because they wanted to see a good Catholic queen on the throne; Henry quickly became besotted and resolved to wed Katherine.

Today, what remains of the Palace of Oatlands lies beneath a housing estate in Weybridge, Surrey. It was a favoured retreat of Henry's, and he took Katherine there for their wedding, solemnised in private on 28 July 1540 by Edmund Bonner, Bishop of London. For ten days, absolute secrecy was maintained.

Infatuated with his bride, the King wanted to spend time alone with her before showing her off to the world.

At last, it seemed, he had found a wife who embodied the qualities he most admired in women: beauty, charm, a pleasant disposition and, he believed, virtue. He considered himself blessed. Whether Katherine was as elated is a matter for conjecture, for her husband was prematurely aged at nearly 50, with a waist of 54 inches and a putrid leg.

### DANGEROUS SECRETS

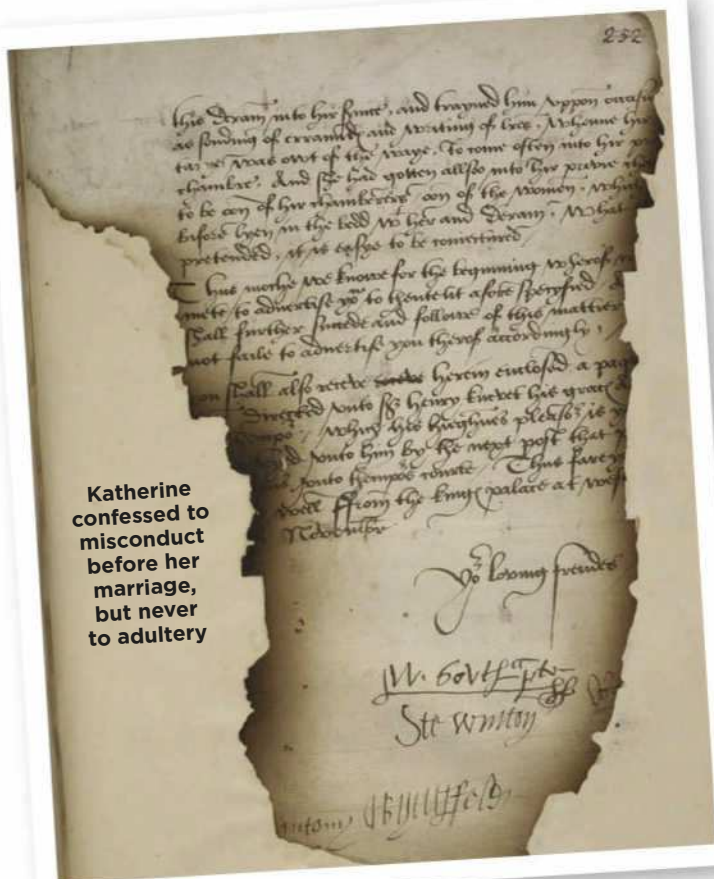
But Katherine had a past of which Henry knew nothing, and it increasingly came back to haunt her. In 1541, evidence of sexual liaisons before her marriage, and adultery after, came to light. Henry broke down in tears in council, then called for a sword with which to slay her whom he had worshipped. She was executed in February 1542.

The tragedy left Henry miserable and lonely, but in no hurry to remarry. That was as well, because, according to the Imperial ambassador, there were few ladies at court hastening to aspire to such an honour.

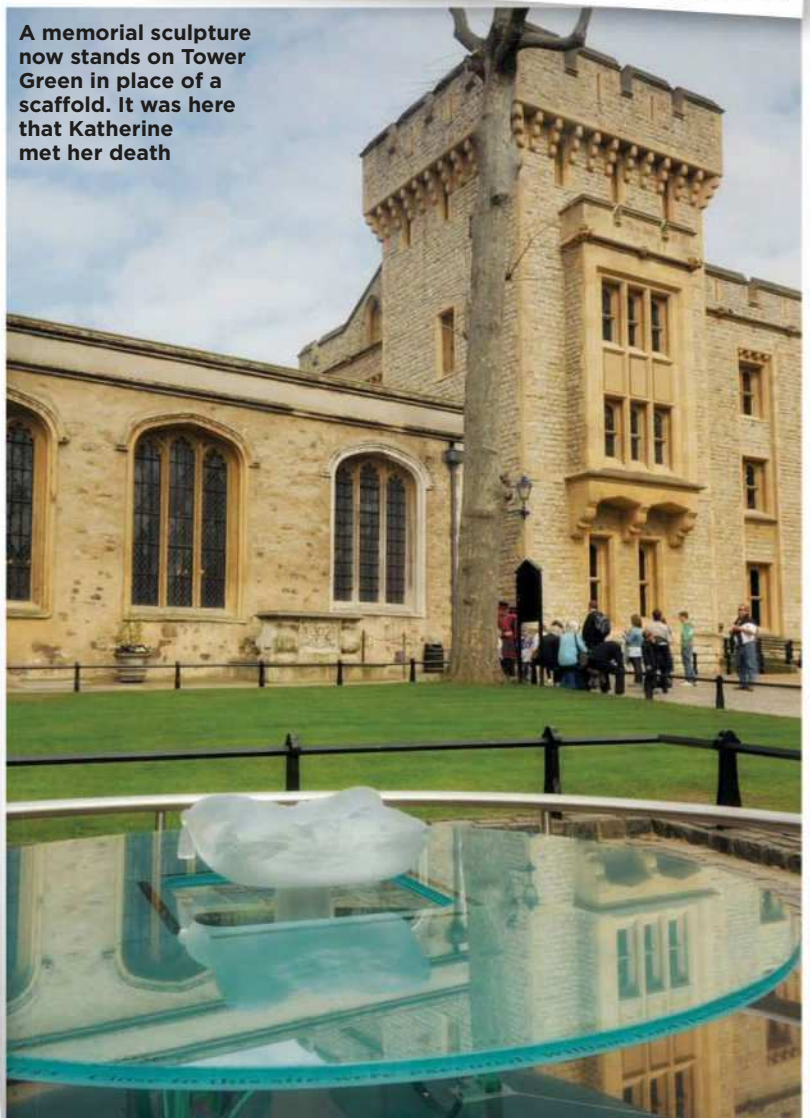


Katherine garnered a reputation as a frivolous character who cared only for pretty clothes

## "HENRY BROKE DOWN IN TEARS, THEN CALLED FOR A SWORD"



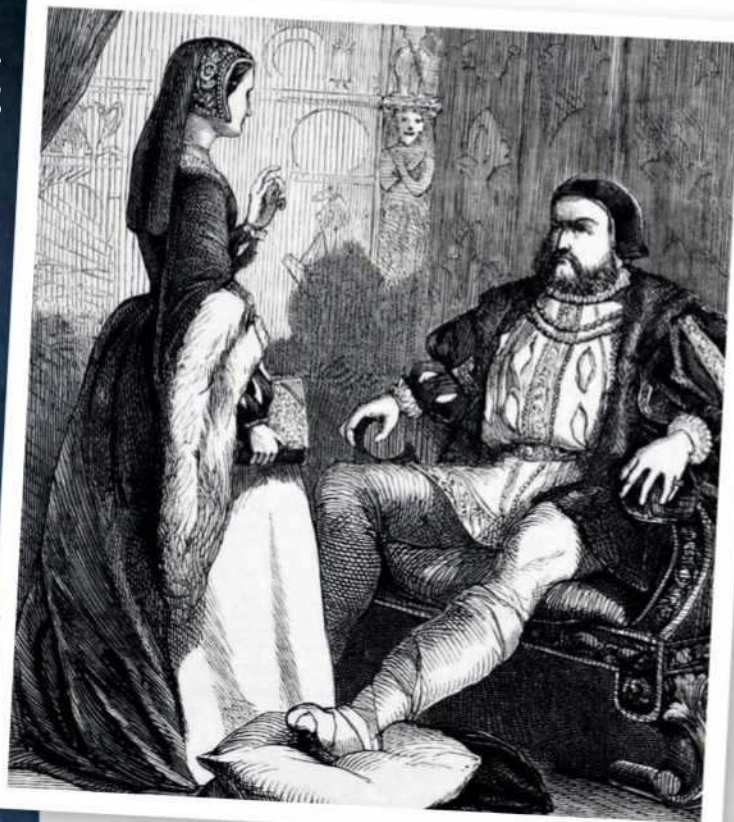
Katherine confessed to misconduct before her marriage, but never to adultery



A memorial sculpture now stands on Tower Green in place of a scaffold. It was here that Katherine met her death



MAIN: Katherine married a fourth time, after Henry's death, to the King's rival Sir Thomas Seymour  
 RIGHT: She stood her ground with the decrepit Henry over religious issues



## KATHERINE PARR


As time passed, and his spirits lightened, Henry began to seek a companion for his declining years, and proposed marriage to Katherine Parr, a comely, intelligent widow of 30.

Katherine was reluctant to marry the King because, having been wife in turn to a sick boy and a sick man, she had looked to wed the gallant Sir Thomas Seymour, Queen Jane's brother. Henry, sniffing a rival, sent Seymour abroad and claimed Katherine for himself.

On 10 July 1543, Archbishop Cranmer issued a special licence for their marriage and, two days later, the wedding took place privately in the Queen's closet at Hampton Court, amid much rejoicing. The King's niece, Lady Margaret Douglas, was the bride's chief attendant. When the King was asked if he would take Katherine Parr to be his lawful wife, he answered "Yea", "with a joyful countenance".

## BELOVED STEPMOTHER

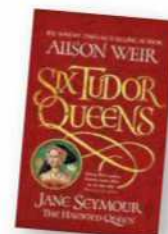
Katherine proved an admirable queen, and a loving stepmother to Henry's children, who were all fond of her. She was popular, and it was said that every day was like a Sunday at her court. Such was the King's trust in her that, when he invaded France in 1544, he appointed her Regent of England in his absence. When he died in 1547, he left her a wealthy widow.

Henry VIII's matrimonial career shows that the outward trappings of royal nuptials were only half of the story – the velvet glove, rather than the iron first inside – and belied the fact that the celebrations attending his weddings would be remembered as the ceremonial cover for an unholly and sometimes brutal alliance. 

## GET HOOKED

### READ

The latest novel in Alison Weir's *Six Tudor Queens* series, *Jane Seymour: the Haunted Queen*, is out in hardback, £18.99, on 3 May (Headline Publishing Group)



**“SNIFFING A RIVAL, HENRY SENT SEYMOUR ABROAD AND CLAIMED KATHERINE FOR HIMSELF”**



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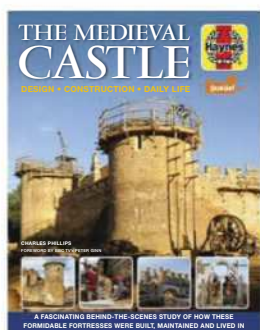
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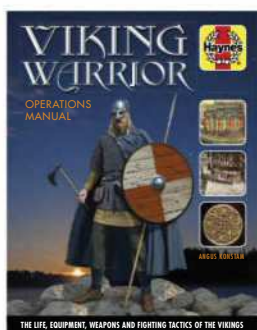
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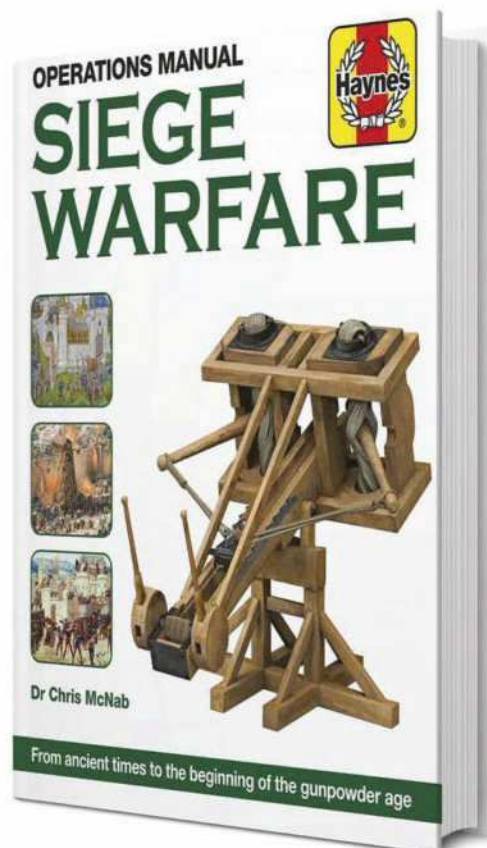
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# MASSACRE AT WOUNDED KNEE

The tragic events of 29 December 1890 are not a scar on American history, but, as the name of the small creek in South Dakota suggests, a gaping wound. **Julian Humphrys** explores why



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Chadron, Neb  
Jan 1st 1891  
View of Wounded Knee



**D**aniel F Royer was a nervous man. It was November 1890 and as the newly appointed agent on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, he was the representative for the US government's dealings with the Lakota Sioux living there. Royer had little experience for the job and even less understanding of the ways of the Sioux peoples. They took to calling him 'Young Man Afraid of Indians'. Royer had hoped to improve the lot of the Native

Americans by encouraging them to adopt the ways of the White Man, going so far as to bring his nephew in to teach them baseball. But an increasing number of the Sioux favoured a very different – and to Royer a very worrying – path to salvation: the Ghost Dance.

These were desperate times for the Lakota Sioux. The relentless westward march of white settlers had seen them driven from their traditional hunting grounds onto reservations, and the bison, vital to their way of life for the hides and meat, had been hunted virtually to

extinction. The US government made them sign treaties to limit their freedoms and then broke them with impunity. In 1889, they engineered the dismemberment of the Great Sioux Reservation, which covered the western half of South Dakota, in order to give approximately half the land to whites. The Lakota were left with just six smaller reservations. There was little to hunt, the soil was poor for farming and matters were made worse when the authorities miscalculated the additional supplies needed to survive the winter. >



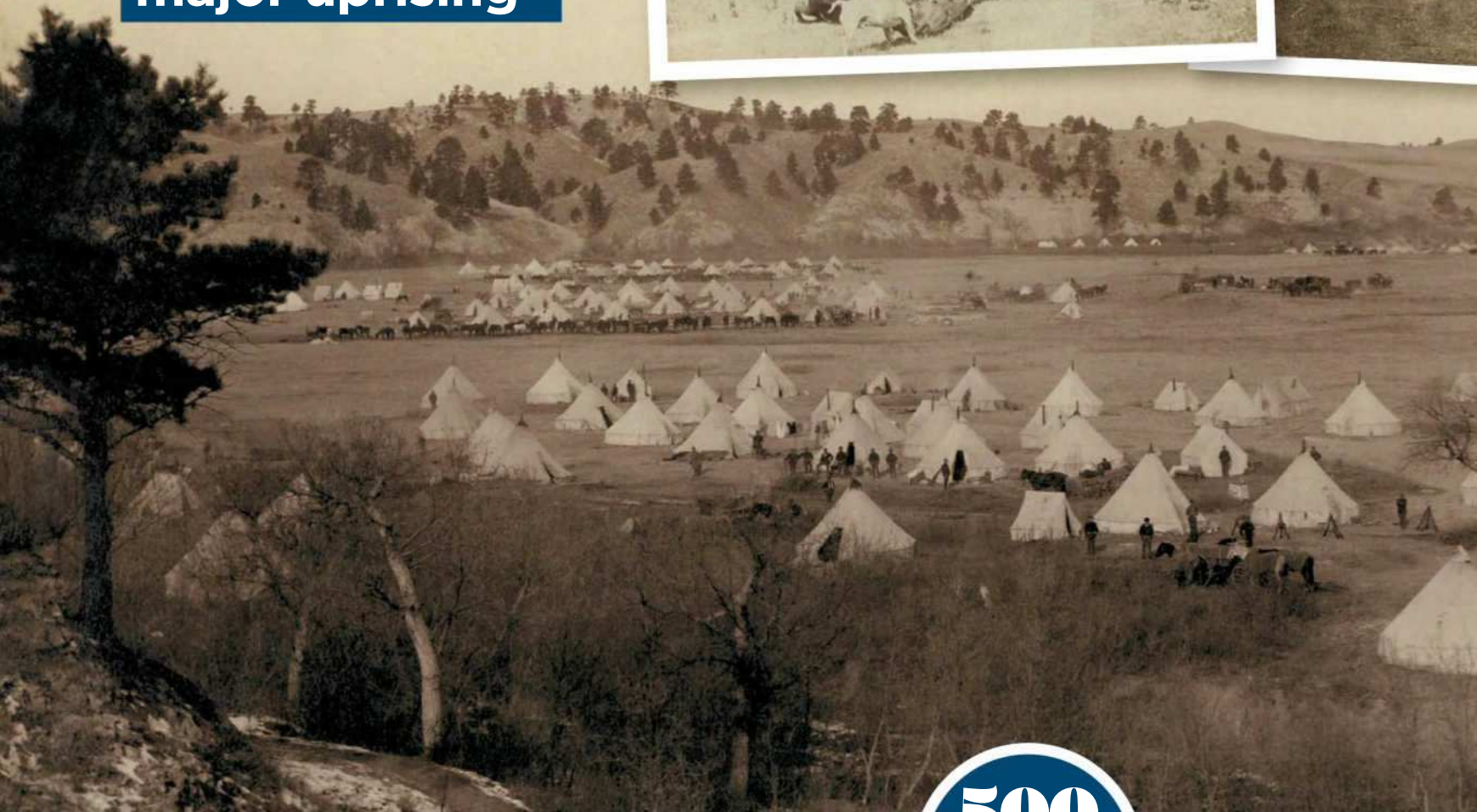
Men, women and children of the Lakota Sioux litter the ground of their own camp after the slaughter

GETTY



# “Many whites feared the Ghost Dance was a precursor to a major uprising”

The Lakota could not hunt for themselves, so relied on meagre meat rations

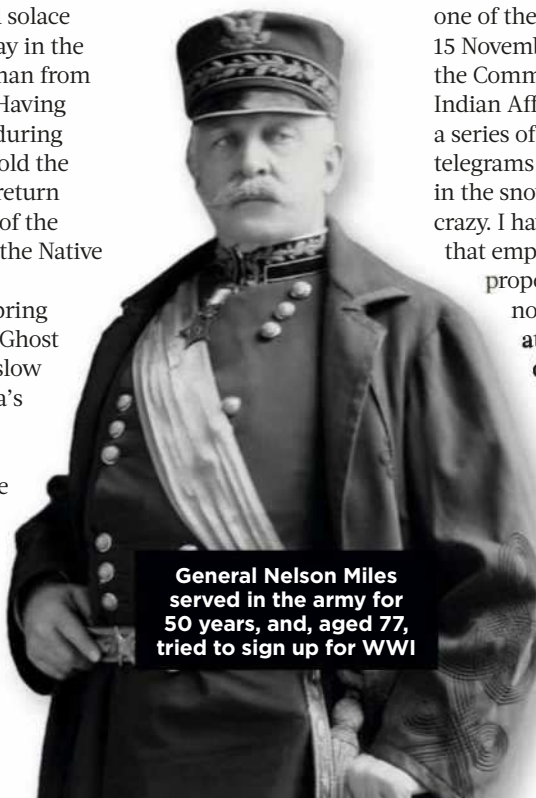


## 500

The number of troops Forsyth had at Wounded Knee: there were 350 Lakota

Weakened by starvation and wracked by disease, many Sioux found solace in a new religion. Its origins lay in the teachings of Wovoka, a holy man from the Paiute people of Nevada. Having claimed to have had a vision during an eclipse of the sun, he foretold the resurrection of the dead, the return of the bison, the banishment of the White Man and the revival of the Native American way of life.

His followers were to help bring this about by performing the Ghost Dance, a silent shuffle to the slow beat of a single drum. Wovoka's message was a non-violent one, but as the Ghost Dance movement spread through the reservations and attempts by the authorities to ban it were ignored, many whites feared that it was the precursor to a major Native American uprising.



General Nelson Miles served in the army for 50 years, and, aged 77, tried to sign up for WWI

Daniel Royer was one of them. On 15 November, he sent the Commissioner for Indian Affairs the latest in a series of increasingly panicky telegrams: “Indians are dancing in the snow and are wild and crazy. I have fully informed you that employees and government property at this agency have no protection and are at the mercy of these dancers. Why delay by further investigation?... The leaders should be arrested and confined in some military post until the matter is quieted, and this should be done at once.”

Within days, 5,000 federal troops were

heading for the South Dakota reservations under the overall command of General Nelson Miles.

A veteran of the American Civil War (who would later be awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during it), Miles was an experienced soldier. He had campaigned against Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse following their victory over Custer at the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876 and subdued the Nez Perce tribe in the following year.

## “HOSTILE ELEMENT”

Despite his concerns that military intervention would simply exacerbate an already tense situation, Miles ordered the arrest of several Sioux leaders. He was under no illusions about the root cause of the problem, writing: “They signed away a valuable portion of their reservation, and it is now occupied by white people, for which they have



Performing a Ghost Dance was meant to get rid of the whites, but it only angered them



US troops, like the 2nd Infantry Regiment here, were sent to reservations in response to the Ghost Dance movement

## THE INDIAN WARS

Native Americans gave their blood, sweat and tears to protect their lands

The encroachment of firstly European and then American and Canadian settlers onto territory long inhabited by Native American tribes would cause three centuries of warfare in North America. Thanks to Hollywood, we tend to focus on the Plains Indian wars of the later 19th century, but there was considerable conflict elsewhere, notably in the 18th century when tribes would actually make the white interlopers their ally against a rival. The Indian Removal Act of 1830 allowed the US government to force Native Americans living east of the Mississippi to move to more sparsely populated lands in the west. As white settlers continued to migrate towards the Pacific – driven on by ‘Manifest Destiny’, the belief that Americans were destined by God to expand their dominion – the wars continued. Defeated peoples had to sell or exchange territory and were confined to designated reservations. By 1900, the Native American population had declined to under 250,000.



The forced relocations of around 100,000 people, during which 15,000 died, was called the ‘Trail of Tears’

## LAY OF THE LAND IN 1890

Clashes between natives and White Man had changed the landscape



received nothing. They understood that ample provision would be made for their support; instead, their supplies have been reduced, and much of the time they have been living on half and two-thirds rations.

“The disaffection is widespread, especially among the Sioux, while the Cheyennes have been on the verge of starvation and were forced to commit depredations to sustain life... unless the officers of the army can give some positive assurance that the government intends to act in good faith with these people, the loyal element will be diminished and the hostile element increased,” Miles concluded.

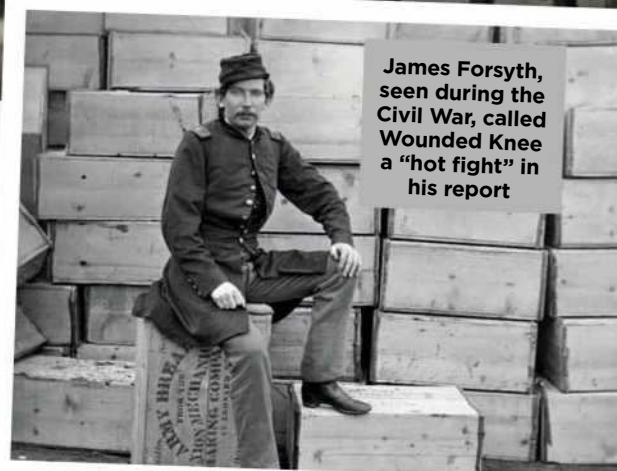
Before any acts of good faith, though, violence broke out on 15 December. Local agent James McLaughlin, wrongly believing that the legendary Hunkpapa Lakota chief Sitting Bull was a leader of the Ghost Dance movement, sent Indian agency police to arrest him at his home



Spotted Elk always looked to use the peace pipe, not the gun



Sitting Bull got his name from his courage; he was like a bison who would sit rather than run from a hunter



James Forsyth, seen during the Civil War, called Wounded Knee a "hot fight" in his report

on the Standing Rock Reservation. When Sitting Bull refused to go quietly, a crowd gathered and shots were exchanged between the chief's loyal and loving supporters and the police. By the time the gunfire subsided, 15 men lay dead – among them Sitting Bull himself.

Lost without their talismanic leader and fearful of reprisals, his supporters fled and headed for the neighbouring Cheyenne River Reservation to join the Miniconjou Lakota Sioux chief Spotted Elk. Although a man of peace, who always showed a willingness to compromise with the US authorities and discouraged violence against settlers, Spotted Elk (known by the whites as Big Foot) too feared arrests or attacks on his people. On 23 December, he and 350 of his followers – many of whom were women and children – set off southwards across the prairies and Badlands of South Dakota. Their goal was the Pine Ridge Reservation, where they hoped to secure the protection of the influential Oglala Lakota leader Red Cloud. Along the way, Spotted Elk fell ill with pneumonia and was forced to travel in a wagon.

Five days later, they were intercepted near a prominent landmark called Porcupine Butte by a detachment of the US 7th Cavalry under Major Samuel Whitside. Hoisting a white flag of truce, the Lakota offered no resistance and

immediately surrendered. Whitside had been warned by one of his half-Sioux scouts not to attempt to disarm them

immediately as it would almost certainly lead to violence, so he ordered his troopers to escort Spotted Elk's band to a camping site at nearby Wounded Knee Creek. At this stage, there was no hint of the tragedy to come.

Whitside lent the Lakota the regimental ambulance to carry Spotted Elk to Wounded Knee, supplied them with extra tents and issued rations before everyone made camp for the night. Later that evening, Colonel James Forsyth arrived with the rest of the 7th Cavalry and took over command. To ensure none of Spotted Elk's followers could slip away, his hundreds of troopers ringed the encampment and covered the position with four rapid-fire Hotchkiss mountain guns.

## PANICKED BLOODLETTING

Following an uneasy night, Forsyth ordered Spotted Elk's men to assemble and demanded the surrender of all firearms. As he was unable to stand, the ailing Spotted Elk had to be propped up on the ground outside his tent. A search of the camp yielded 38 rifles, and then

the soldiers searched individual Lakota. It was at this point that things went suddenly wrong.

The scene grew increasingly tense when a medicine man named Yellow Bird began the Ghost Dance. It stirred up some of the young Lakota men, who were unwilling to hand over their weapons, which were not only expensive, but their best chance of feeding their families. One man, Black Coyote, held onto his rifle – possibly because he was deaf and hadn't heard or understood the order to surrender it – and as soldiers tried to wrestle the weapon from his grasp, a shot rang out and carnage followed.

Forsyth's men immediately began shooting into the surrounded Lakota. Caught in close-range crossfire, many of Spotted Elk's men died there and then, while a number of soldiers fell after being hit by bullets fired by their comrades. The surviving Lakota grabbed what weapons they could find and fought back, but, outnumbered and

**“Women and children attempted to run, but there was no escape”**



The 42mm Hotchkiss gun was portable for the time, being able to be moved by two mules



71

The number of days that Native American protestors occupied Wounded Knee in 1973

outgunned, they stood little chance in the confused melee. To add to the panic and horror, Forsyth's out-of-control men turned to the Hotchkiss guns, filling the air with earth-shaking booms, smoke and exploding shells that ripped through both Lakota and soldiers.

The women and children, who had been separated from their menfolk, attempted to run for their wagons and horses or fled on foot, but, for most, there was no escape. Some were slain by rifle fire or the Hotchkiss guns, while others were hunted down as anyone and everyone fell victim to the indiscriminate bloodletting.

## ON THE FROZEN GROUND

Later, a Lakota chief named American Horse reported: "A mother was shot down with her infant; the child not knowing that its mother was dead was still nursing, and that especially was a very sad sight. The women as they were fleeing with their babes were killed together, shot right through, and the women who were very heavy with child were also killed.

"All the Indians fled in these three directions and after most all of them had been killed, a cry was made that all those who were not killed

or wounded should come forth and they would be safe. Little boys who were not

wounded came out of their places of refuge, and as soon as they came in sight a number of soldiers surrounded them and butchered them there."

In less than an hour, it was all over. Spotted Elk lay dead, together with hundreds of his followers. As many as 300 may have been slaughtered, dozens of them women and children. The soldiers lost 25 dead and 39 wounded, mostly as a result of their own fire. Forsyth's men gathered up their dead and wounded, and took around 50 surviving Lakota to the Agency on the Pine Ridge Reservation. A severe blizzard was approaching, so no attempt was made to bury the bodies of the dead Lakota. They were left where they fell on the frozen ground.

In fact, there was still more violence to come the very next day. When Forsyth's 7th Cavalry rode to investigate

## THE MEDAL OF DISHONOR

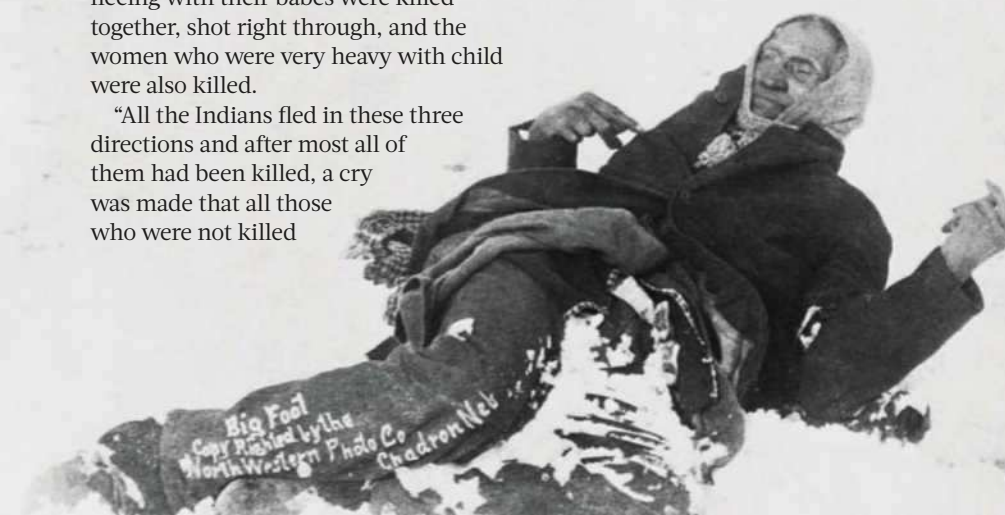
The massacre of hundreds was rewarded

No fewer than 20 Medals of Honor, the highest military decoration in the United States, were subsequently awarded to troopers of the 7th Cavalry present at Wounded Knee. A further 12 were given to soldiers involved in other aspects of the campaign. Although the Medal of Honor was a far more common award in the 19th century than it is today, it has been argued that the issue of so many for Wounded Knee is evidence of the government's determination at the time to present the massacre in as favourable a light as possible. Following a review of the award in 1916, over 900 Medals of Honor were rescinded for various reasons, and there have been repeated calls for the Wounded Knee medals to follow this example.

reports that a catholic mission on the reservation had been burned down, they found themselves pinned down in a valley by hostile Lakota and Brulé Sioux and had to be rescued by the black 'Buffalo Soldiers' of the 9th Cavalry. From then on, the soldiers remained at the Pine Ridge Agency until 3 January, concerned that further revenge attacks may be mounted against them. That day, a civilian burial party rode under military escort to Wounded Knee and buried nearly 150 now-frozen bodies in a single mass grave. More dead were found and buried later.



This haunting image shows the body of Spotted Elk, the moment of his death frozen by being out in the snow for days







After the frozen bodies of nearly 150 Lakota were buried in a mass grave, chiefs met to negotiate a peace with General Miles



## “The massacre left a still-open wound in the American psyche”

General Nelson Miles, the man in overall command, was appalled when he heard about what had happened. Writing to his wife, he described Wounded Knee as “the most abominable criminal military blunder and a horrible massacre of women and children”.

He relieved Forsyth and demanded an inquiry. His own report was so damning that even his own secretary suggested he tone it down, but the authorities would have none of it. They replaced Miles’s report with their own, blaming the Lakota and recasting the soldiers in the roles of heroes. Forsyth was exonerated and reinstated (eventually retiring as a major-general in 1897). Miles spent the rest of his life campaigning for compensation payments to the survivors.

### DEATH OF A DREAM

Some took a grim view of the massacre, which was initially dubbed a battle. As the burial party got to work, the editor of South Dakota’s *The Aberdeen Pioneer*, wrote: “*The Pioneer* has before declared that our only safety depends upon the total extermination of the Indians. Having wronged them for centuries we had better, in order to protect our civilization, follow it up by one more wrong and wipe these untamed and untameable creatures from the face of the earth. In this lies future safety for our settlers and the soldiers who are under

incompetent commands. Otherwise, we may expect future years to be as full of trouble with the redskins as those have been in the past.” The writer was L Frank Baum, who, 10 years later, penned one of history’s best-loved children’s stories, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*.

The site of the massacre (few now call it a battle) is aptly named, as Wounded Knee has left a still-open wound in the American psyche. Its legacy is fear and hatred, and it marked the effective end of the Native American attempt to preserve their way of life.

Speaking some 40 years later, a survivor called Black Elk recalled: “I did not know then how much was ended. When I look back now from this high hill of my old age, I can still see the butchered women and children lying heaped and scattered all along the crooked gulch as plain as when I saw them with eyes still young. And I can see that something else died there in the bloody mud, and was buried in the blizzard. A people’s dream died there.”

### GET HOOKED

#### READ

*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, by Dee Brown is still essential reading on the subject. First published in 1970, the seminal and powerful work tells the story of how Native Americans lost their land, lives and liberty to white settlers pushing westward.

## MAKING A STAND ON WOUNDED KNEE

In 1973, gunfire rang out once again

Wounded Knee was once again propelled to the forefront of national consciousness in February 1973, when the hamlet there was occupied by 200 Oglala Lakota and the radical American Indian Movement (AIM). The protestors, who chose Wounded Knee for its symbolic value, demanded the removal of Oglala tribal leader Dick Wilson, who they accused of corruption, and an inquiry into the US government’s failures to honour treaties made with Native American tribes.

Wilson responded by laying siege to Wounded Knee, with the backing of the government. During the ten-week stand-off, law enforcement officers and AIM members regularly exchanged gunfire. Two Native Americans were killed and a federal marshal was permanently paralysed before the AIM leaders finally surrendered on 8 May. Although failing to bring about the demanded changes, the occupation made headlines worldwide and drew attention to the problems of modern Native Americans, which inspired other groups and causes.



The armed occupiers took 11 hostages, some choosing to stay after being released

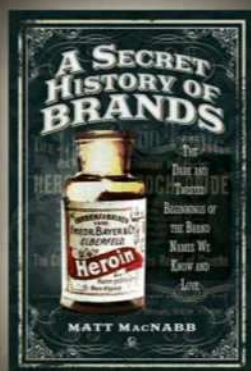




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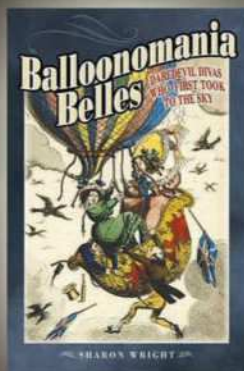
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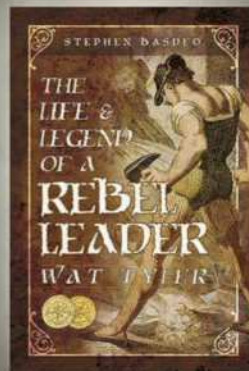
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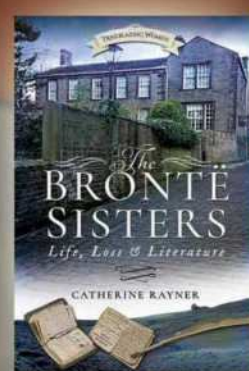
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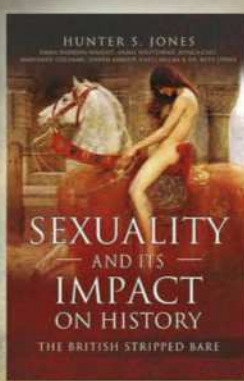
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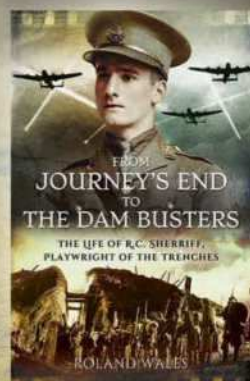
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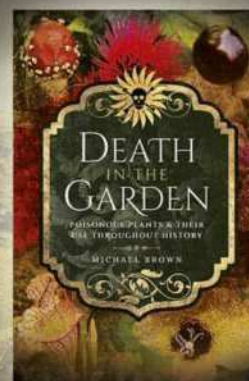
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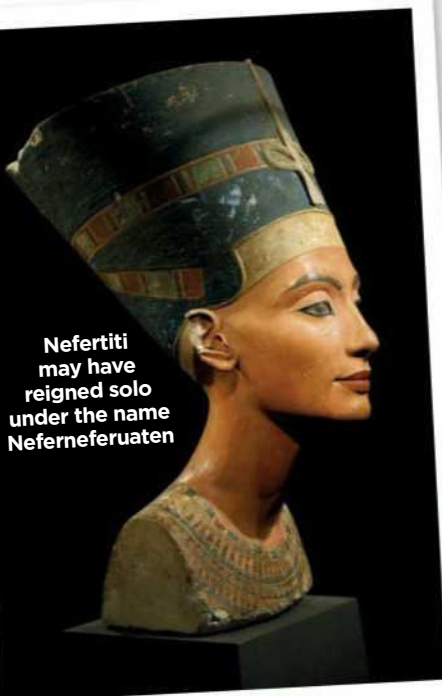


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# Female pharaohs

These leading ladies all grasped the reins of power in Ancient Egypt – most for the better



Nefertiti may have reigned solo under the name Neferneferuaten

## NEFERTITI

**When:** 14th century BC, 18th Dynasty

No woman of Ancient Egypt is as recognisable as Nefertiti, thanks to the 1912 discovery of her exquisite limestone bust. The Great Royal Wife of Amenhotep IV (later Akhenaten), her name means 'a beautiful woman has come', but she was much more than this. She took an active role as the kingdom reached the height of its power and wealth, and was a partner in a major religious revolution, replacing the traditional gods with a single deity, the sun disc Aten. In the art of the period, Nefertiti stands as her husband's equal – and it is possible she ruled alone after his death.



Ahhotep is thought to have defended Thebes, which would become Ahmose I's capital

Stellae weren't only used for commemoration. In Ancient Greece and Rome, they doubled as boundary markers

## CLEOPATRA

**When:** First century BC, Ptolemaic Dynasty

A name synonymous with seduction, scandal and suicide, Cleopatra ranks as one of the most famous pharaohs. As a teenager, she became co-regent with her brother and quickly sought absolute power, which brought her in league with the Roman Empire. She seduced Julius Caesar and then Mark Antony, with whom she got dragged into a civil war against Octavian, the future Emperor Augustus. After a heavy defeat at Actium, Cleopatra and Mark Anthony killed themselves, leaving Egypt to the Romans.



Cleopatra died by poison – possibly from the bite of an asp

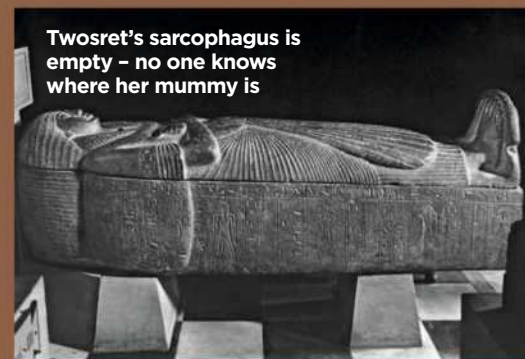


## AHHOTEP I

**When:** 16th century BC, 17th Dynasty

Much about Ahhotep's life is still grounds for speculation, yet a stela (slab) offers a clue. Dating from the time of Ahmose I – who might have been her son – it gives thanks to Ahhotep for putting down a rebellion. "She is the one who has accomplished the rites and taken care of Egypt ... she has looked after her soldiers, she has guarded her, she has brought back her fugitives and collected together her deserters, she has pacified Upper Egypt and expelled her rebels."

Twosret's sarcophagus is empty – no one knows where her mummy is



## TWOSRET

**When:** 12th century BC, 19th Dynasty

On the death of her husband, Seti II, Twosret acted as regent to the child-king Siptah. His death a few years later allowed her to declare herself as pharaoh. Details are hard to come by about her two-year reign, which coincided with the sacking of Troy, and it is unknown whether her death came during a civil war or if it sparked one. Either way, Twosret was destined to be the final pharaoh of the 19th Dynasty.





Nefertari plays the ancient board game senet, for which we still haven't found a set of rules

## NEFERTARI

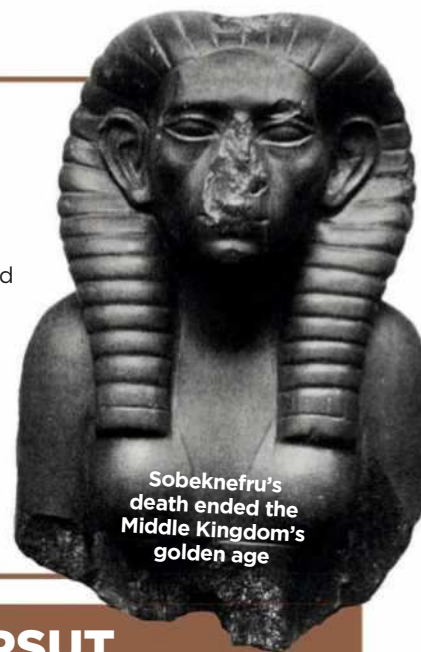
**When:** 13th century BC, 19th Dynasty

Ramesses II took many wives and had more than 100 children, but his Great Royal Wife Nefertari was his favourite of them all. Named 'Sweet of Love', 'Bride of God' and 'The One For Whom the Sun Shines', she exerted significant sway on his 66-year reign and, as she had been educated and could read and write hieroglyphics, even became a diplomatic figure. As a sign of their love, Ramesses built her a temple next to his at Abu Simbel. Her tomb is one of the largest in the Valley of the Queens.

## SOBEKNEFRU

**When:** 19th century BC, 12th Dynasty

Unlike some of the other pharaohs we've covered here, Sobeknefru did not rely on being portrayed as a man to assert her position during her four-year reign. She was named after the crocodile-headed god Sobek, a protector of pharaohs. While she died without an heir, the pharaohs of the 13th Dynasty kept the 'Sobek' name.



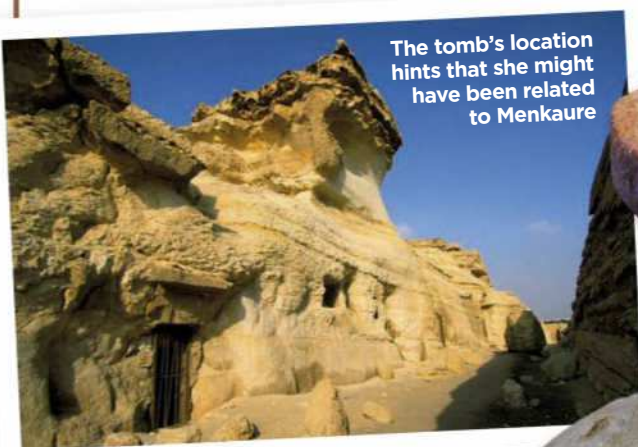
Sobeknefru's death ended the Middle Kingdom's golden age

## KHENTKAWES I

**When:** 26th century BC, Fourth Dynasty

Her tomb has been called the 'Fourth Pyramid of Giza'. With a main hall, inner chapel, burial chamber, solar boat and a pyramid city of streets and houses, it certainly is fit for a pharaoh. Inside, Khentkawes I sits on a throne, bearing a sceptre and the royal symbols of a rearing cobra and a false beard. Yet this may all be propaganda, as much of Khentkawes' life remains a mystery.

Even the beards of male pharaohs were false - they wore them to imitate the appearance of the god Osiris



The tomb's location hints that she might have been related to Menkaure

## TIYE

**When:** 14th century BC, 18th Dynasty

While never actually a pharaoh, Tiye was Ancient Egypt's most influential figure behind the throne. The near 40-year reign of her husband Amenhotep III was a time of peace and prosperity, with Tiye as his most trusted adviser - the Amarna letters show how well respected she was. After his death, Tiye then became a strong presence for her son, the religious radical Akhenaten.



Tiye ensured a strong legacy for her grandson, one Tutankhamun

## HATSHEPSUT

**When:** 15th century BC, 18th Dynasty

Ancient Egypt's most powerful woman knew that the best way to augment her authority was to be seen with male attributes - which is why statues of Hatshepsut show her with muscular arms and wearing a false beard. In her seventh year as regent for her stepson, Thutmose III, she made the unprecedented demand to be co-ruler. Adopting the title of pharaoh, Hatshepsut oversaw a peaceful period, in which she expanded trade and launched hundreds of building projects, her masterpiece being the splendid mortuary temple at Deir el Bahari. Even Thutmose's attempts to erase her from history could not quash her remarkable achievements.

Later pharaohs would try to claim Hatshepsut's building projects as their own

## MERNEITH

**When:** 30th century BC, First Dynasty

Records suggest that Merneith took power in her own right nearly 5,000 years ago - which, if true, makes her the first female pharaoh. Her name appears on a seal listing the early pharaohs (although it may just be naming her as a mother of kings) and her tomb contained artefacts usually reserved for rulers, such as a boat. When discovered in 1900, archaeologists confidently announced they had just found a tomb of a man.



Merneith may also hold the record of earliest queen regent



**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Who's your fave female pharaoh? Are they even on this list?

Email: [editor@historyrevealed.com](mailto:editor@historyrevealed.com)





In the Cold War, the US pursued any chance to defeat the Soviets, even devising the most audacious covert operation in history



# THE AZORIAN JOB

HOW **HOWARD HUGHES** HELPED THE  
**CIA** SNATCH A **SOVIET NUCLEAR SUB**  
FROM THE SEA FLOOR

It sounds like the plot of a bombastic spy movie,  
but, as **Josh Dean** uncovers, Project Azorian  
required very real, very daring deception



One morning in November 1969, Curtis Crooke was in a meeting when three unexpected visitors came into the room and said they needed to talk to him. The 41-year-old Crooke was in charge of all engineering for Global Marine, a deep-ocean drilling company known for innovative shipbuilding, and it was that expertise that the three men, all in dark suits, wanted.

They sat down and the one clearly in charge, John Parangosky, spoke. "We work for the Central Intelligence Agency," he said. "I assume you know what that is." Parangosky explained that Global Marine was the only company in the world that could complete a job that interested the CIA. Was it feasible, he wondered, to lift something weighing several thousand tons from the bottom of the ocean, at a depth of 15-20,000ft?

Crooke thought a minute. It sounded like a ridiculous problem, but not necessarily impossible. He said he'd have to get back to them. Once they left, he pulled out his copy of *Jane's Fighting Ships*, a reference book to all naval vessels, flipped to the section on Soviet submarines, and smiled. The numbers matched up, more or less.

## SOVIETS LOSE A SUB

In late February 1968, the Soviet diesel-electric submarine K-129 – carrying three ballistic nuclear missiles – was on a routine combat patrol in a remote area of the North Pacific when it vanished. After radio communication suddenly ceased, a flotilla of craft steamed out of Soviet ports in a mass search-and-rescue

mission. When nothing could be found of the Golf-class sub, the rescue was abandoned. But the United States had noticed. With it clear that their Cold War foe had lost something, naval intelligence correctly ascertained that it was K-129.

Very quickly, conversations began in Washington DC. Could the US locate this sub, and, if it was still intact, recover it? To do so would be to obtain a priceless haul of critical intelligence, in particular, three state-of-the-art ballistic missiles, with nuclear warheads, and the latest cryptography gear.

What's more, the US had the tools to find the sub that the Soviets lacked. Drawing on acoustic signals from a sprawling network of underwater hydrophones, installed in secret during the 1950s to passively listen to submarine traffic, the Navy identified the likely death throes of K-129. From that, they triangulated its approximate position and dispatched the USS *Halibut* to locate the wreck.

Outfitted with the latest technology and a quiver of tools to surveil the deep ocean, the *Halibut* had turned from a missile sub into one of the most secret weapons in the American undersea intelligence arsenal. After a few weeks of searching an area about 1,500 miles north and west of Hawaii, it found its

Few in Project Azorian knew mastermind John Parangosky's name, calling him only "Mr P"



target on the seabed three miles down. The pictures taken proved that K-129 was in good shape and there for the taking, if the US could figure out how to get it.

The gigantic salvaging challenge, the likes of which had never been done before, was approved by President Richard Nixon and handed to the CIA, a hub of out-of-the-box engineering. While imagining and building a recovery system to salvage a sub so far down bordered on impossible, the Agency's Directorate of Science and Technology was eager to give it a shot.

MAIN: K-129, seen during a military parade in 1965, completed two patrols in 1967  
RIGHT: On its last, doomed mission, the sub had a 98-strong crew





John Graham (left), the *Explorer's* architect, died during the salvage; his ashes were sent to the ship to be buried at sea

**"THE DEEPEST SALVAGE OF ANY SUBMARINE WAS AROUND 90 METRES..."**

## The People of GLOBAL MARINE

**R. F. BAUER**, Chairman of the Board, was graduated (BSPE) from the University of Southern California in 1942 but previously had worked for a number of years as a drilling pipe roughneck following his graduation, by joint venture and varied intensively in technical, supervisory and administrative capacities. In 1953 he became manager of offshore operations for the CVN Group administering all phases of the work until formation of Global Marine in 1959.

**A. J. FIELD**, President, received his Master's Degree from Stanford University (MSCE) following completion of undergraduate work at Cal Tech, supervisor in watercraft construction with the Seaflex in the Pacific. In 1947 he joined Universal Oil Company as a naval architect and subsequently was assigned to teams in the Company. In 1951 he joined offshore group where he assumed responsibility for petroleum engineering programs and economics until formation of Global Marine in 1959.

**HPM H. ATWOOD**, Executive Vice President, joined Global Marine in February 1962 as Manager of the Gulf Coast Division. In the Spring of 1962 he became Vice President of the Eastern Division and in September 1966, Executive Vice President. Between graduation from University of Southern California and a brief period in the oil business, he worked for Western Drilling and played two years in Guam. While with Standard Oil Field party of Ohio, he served as drilling and became manager of offshore operations for the company in New Orleans.

**O. D. BLANKENSHIP** is Vice President - Drilling Operations. After attending as a B-24 bomber pilot from 1942 to 1945, five years of that period being spent as helicopter pilot for Harry L. Edwards Drilling Company, Houston. He spent their offshore drilling operations, then joined Warren Petroleum as man who was manager of their land department; transferred in Texas and Louisiana. In drilling Company in Rome as vice president and manager of operations. He joined Global Marine in 1962.

**R. C. CROOKE**, Vice President - Engineering and Construction, graduated in 1949 from the University of California with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, specializing in fluid mechanics and hydrodynamics. He worked for the University for four years on special wave and ship design, then joined a consulting engineer, which was retained by the drilling companies. He also has been employed as an independent surveyor. He was one of the founders of Global Marine in 1959.

**TAYLOR HANCOCK**, Vice President, from University of Southern California in 1942. After four years in the Coast Guard, he completed law work at UC, married his LLB degree and was admitted to the Bar in 1948. He worked in the Superior Oil Company, working in the land department. He was transferred permanent for the Rocky Mountain area, of the Land Department in mountain States.

This was even more difficult and ambitious than it sounds. The deepest salvage of any submarine in history was around 90 metres and the K-129 job would be more complex by orders of magnitude. It was at a depth of almost 5,000 metres. Parangosky needed a contractor who could pull it off, which is what took him to Global Marine.

John Graham, Global Marine's top naval architect, sketched the design for a ship that would deploy a long string of steel pipe hung from a towering, gimballed derrick, through a hole in the bottom of the ship that opened via two sliding gates. At the end of this string would be a huge claw to grab the sub and pull it

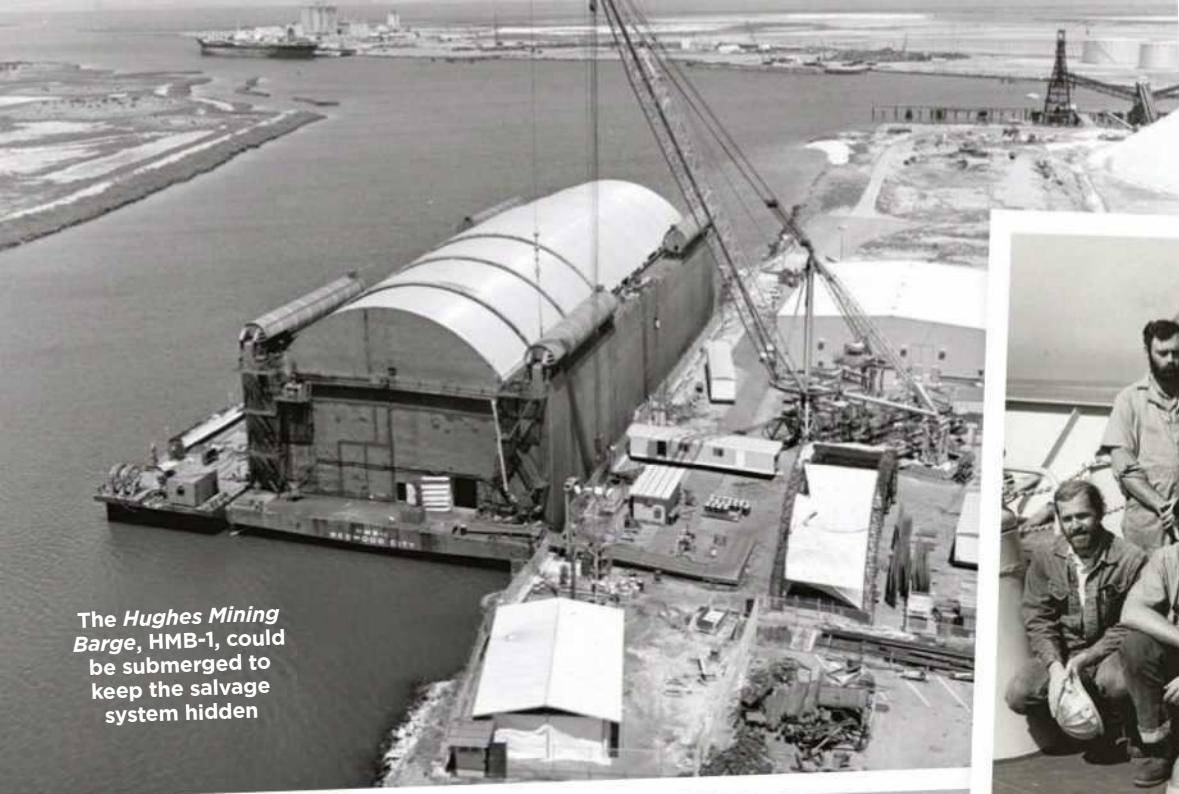
The owner, it was decided, should be Howard Hughes. The businessman was fabulously rich, famous the world over and a near-unrestrained eccentric. He did audacious things and didn't care what people thought of him – after all, he spent years building the world's largest airplane, the *Spruce Goose*, out of wood, only to fly it once. Hughes

A photograph showing a person's hand holding a dark, irregularly shaped rock specimen, likely a meteorite. The rock has a rough, textured surface with some lighter-colored mineral inclusions. The background is a brown tiled floor.

was also a great patriot, with a history of supporting government projects, including a few for the CIA. With his instant agreement to be the front for Project Azorian, the custom-built mining ship was named the *Hughes Glomar Explorer*.

Using Hughes worked perfectly, as his reputation made everyone immediately inclined to believe the mining story. This was helped along by the team assigned by Parangosky to project and protect the cover. A group, led by tall Texan Paul Reeve and including scientists and academics, attended conferences, gave interviews and generally went about life as if Hughes really did have a mining company. Reporters breathlessly reported on the incredible new project





The Hughes Mining Barge, HMB-1, could be submerged to keep the salvage system hidden



ABOVE: The crew was a mixture of sailors, labourers and engineers. Sherman Wetmore (*standing, centre*) was Global Marine's most senior man  
BELOW: The *Explorer* launched in November 1972 - nearly five years after K-129 had been lost





from the strange billionaire Howard Hughes, while Parangosky's Azorian team, based at a secret office near Los Angeles International Airport, worked on the ship.

In July 1973, the *Explorer* sailed out of its shipyard just south of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. With a crew of 'mining personnel', it travelled down the east coast of South America, through the Straits of Magellan and up the west side toward its eventual new base, in Long Beach, California. There, it anchored right next to the immense hangar where Hughes' *Spruce Goose* was kept as a museum piece, and work got underway to convert the *Explorer* into a spy ship with everything needed to steal a sub.

In advance of the ship's arrival, the CIA built a series of labs inside shipping containers that could be slipped into open spaces on the ship without raising any alarms. Among the dozens of these 'vans' was a darkroom, various spaces for dealing with nuclear materials, a decontamination room, an area for drying and preserving documents, a unit for waste handling, and a refrigerated morgue for storing any bodies or human remains found in K-129.

Meanwhile, off the pier, people had grown curious. The *Explorer*'s arrival had made news, as the CIA hoped, and its association with Hughes was bait for the media and the public. Yachts sailed

by, sometimes with the rich and famous on board. It was not uncommon to see John Wayne chilling in shorts on his boat, and workers aboard the *Explorer* hollered when Peter Fonda cruised past on a yacht loaded with beautiful women in bikinis.

## MISSION LAUNCH

If Project Azorian was going to have any chance of success, it had only a tiny window in which to operate. The area of the Pacific where K-129 sank experienced some furious ocean, meaning that the sea was only calm enough to attempt a salvage during mid-summer months.

The *Explorer* either had to be on its way by June 1974, or wait an entire year, and the longer the mission had to be kept secret increased the chances of the cover being blown. So even though the ship's systems hadn't been fully tested, Parangosky had no choice and the *Explorer* launched on 20 June 1974. The voyage to the wreck site kept the 178 men on board busy as so many pieces of the ship and technologies had never been seen before. Engineers, riggers and grunts worked furiously to familiarise themselves with everything and get the systems ready.

The entire crew had been cleared into the mission's true story, and everyone was well aware of the dangers. They'd

all been given life insurance and told CIA security officers who to contact in the event of an emergency. Yet, most ominously, they had no idea what would happen if the Soviets were to show up and board – or worse, attack. The *Explorer* was basically defenceless. To carry weapons or a platoon of Marines would give away the lie, and Azorian's leaders thought it was possible that the secret could be kept even if Soviets did show up, especially if the claw, known as Clementine, and the pipe string were under the ocean.

Despite these concerns, spirits remained high. The crew was about to attempt the most complicated and extraordinary feat of naval engineering in human history. Yes, the work was difficult, even gruelling – and they had been hurled into the clandestine actions of the Cold War – but it was exciting too, and wholly satisfying.

By 4 July, they had reached their destination and the processes began to deploy the claw. Every step forward, though, seemed to bring two steps back, as parts would break and need to be fixed, the sea churned and the weather

**"THE CREW HAD NO IDEA WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE SOVIETS SHOWED UP. THE EXPLORER WAS BASICALLY DEFENCELESS"**



After a 13-day voyage, the *Explorer* reached the wreck site on Independence Day, seen by some as good luck

SAN MATEO COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM X1, JOHN & JENNY PARSONS X2, CHARLES CANBY X1



### DERRICK

Once the salvage system had been lowered, the derrick supported 5.4 million kilograms before the near 1.4 million kilogram sub was picked up. The *Explorer* creaked and groaned.

### MOON POOL

Hauling the sub into a cavity in the ship, accessed by huge doors in the hull, allowed all the action to happen underwater, away from prying eyes.

### PIPE STRING

The three miles from surface to seabed was covered by linking steel pipes together, each one 18 metres long. That's around 280 pipes.

## PERFORMING THE 'GRUNT LIFT'

Years of planning, practising, secrecy and technological strides, which ended up costing \$800 million (almost £3 billion today), all led to a few weeks in the summer of 1974. The slow process of lowering the salvage system, picking up K-129 from the seabed and raising it back up relied on thousands of little things going smoothly. But a big thing went wrong. The claw broke, so only a section of the sub could be retrieved. The recovery stage ended on 9 August, the very day President Nixon resigned.

### CLEMENTINE

Myriad faults meant the descent of the Capture Vehicle took two weeks. Nicknamed Clementine, it was equipped with sonar, cameras and lights so engineers could see what they were doing.

**"AZORIAN RANKS IN THE FOREFRONT OF IMAGINATIVE AND BOLD OPERATIONS... IT COMBINED IMMENSE SIZE AND SCOPE"**

CIA DOCUMENT, RELEASED IN 2010

### K-129

Six bodies were recovered. The crew of the *Explorer* held a memorial service and buried them at sea, inside metal coffins due to concerns of contamination.





During one dangerously close pass by the Soviet tug SB-10, its crew mooned the *Explorer*

< was a nuisance. Then on 18 July, the Soviets showed up.

Clementine was already making its long and slow journey to the bottom of the ocean when the *Chazhma*, a 'missile-range instrumentation ship' approached the *Explorer*. It circled, sent a helicopter over to photograph the deck, and radioed for information. When the *Explorer's* captain replied that his was a mining ship, the *Chazhma* believed him, leaving a day later. The crew was in the clear, or so they thought.

Two days on and the recovery was well underway when a second Soviet vessel arrived, this time a small tug called the SB-10. By this point, there was no time to waste, so while the captain dealt with the unwanted visitor, which was acting erratically and actively harassing them, preparations for the salvage continued.

Soon, Clementine touched down. Operators in the control room used live CCTV footage, side-scan sonar and small thrusters, powered by seawater hydraulics, to position the claw over the stricken sub. After they successfully touched down, they could attempt, finally, the grunt lift. Cheers erupted in the room as the claw lifted the largest piece of the sub, containing all of the valuable material, up out of the mud. It was now just a waiting game. Retracting the pipe would take days. Fortunately, up top, the captain had finally managed to shake the SB-10. Project Azorian, it seemed, was in the clear.

Then disaster struck. Days into the lift, with more than two-thirds of the pipe retrieved, several of the fingers on Clementine broke, sending most of K-129 hurtling back towards the seabed. When Parangosky found out, he raced to headquarters, where his boss panicked at the news. CIA Director William Colby ordered the *Explorer* to make another attempt, only to be told that this was impossible. The claw was broken. If the

CIA wanted to try again, it would be next year.

Curtis Crooke was more than happy to make the repairs and improvements to the ship in preparation for a follow-up mission. He had no doubt that the *Explorer* could go back and finish the job, as long as the cover story held.

It didn't. Someone leaked to the media and, despite Colby convincing some journalists to sit on the story, the Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Jack Anderson revealed Project Azorian on 18 March 1975.

## "GREATEST FEAT"

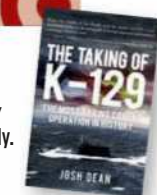
So was the covert operation a success? It had remained a secret for five years, the ship and systems did work, and, despite the malfunction, a portion of K-129 was still recovered. Inside were two nuclear torpedoes – what else was obtained is a mystery as the CIA refuses to comment.

In 2006, the engineering, the details of which went unknown for so long, got its due when the American Society of Mechanical Engineers named the *Explorer* as a Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark, the 239th human-made object to earn that honour. Others went further. The Director of the Scripps Institute compared constructing the *Explorer* to the Manhattan Project, which he worked on as a young scientist. And Admiral J Edward Snyder, former Oceanographer of the Navy, told *Science* magazine that the bold, brash and brilliant attempt to steal a Soviet sub was "probably the greatest technical achievement in ocean engineering in my lifetime".

## GET HOOKED

### READ

Josh Dean's *The Taking of K-129: The Most Daring Covert Operation in History* (Amberley) will be available from 15 July.



# THE CIA'S SECRET COLD WAR WEAPON

The work of the Directorate of Science and Technology, a branch of the CIA, is one of the most under-appreciated stories of the Cold War. Over decades, a relatively small group of American scientists and engineers turned out one amazing machine after another. Here are their greatest hits:

## U-2 SPY PLANE

### CODE NAME: AQUATONE

► Developed by Lockheed in eight months and under budget, the U-2 appeared in 1955. Able to fly at 70,000 feet, above Soviet defences, it gave President Eisenhower the confidence that there was no 'bomber gap'. The Soviets weren't as far ahead as he had feared.



## SR-71 SPY PLANE

### CODE NAME: BLACKBIRD

◀ In 1962 came the first flight of the A-12, engineer Kelly Johnson's successor to the U-2. Within two years it had been developed into the SR-71 – the fastest and most advanced plane in history. It could fly from London to Los Angeles in 3 hours 47 minutes and bedevilled the Soviets and their allies in North Korea and Vietnam.



## THE FIRST-EVER SPY SATELLITE

### CODE NAME: CORONA

► What was better than a spy plane? A satellite circling the Earth taking photos. The first 12 launch attempts failed, but on 18 August 1960, a satellite finally reached orbit. A single day produced more photo surveillance than all U-2 flights combined.



## TAPPING A SOVIET COMMUNICATION CABLE

### CODE NAME: IVY BELLS

Working with the Navy, CIA engineers built and installed a tap on a Soviet communication line under the Sea of Okhotsk in 1971. Every month, saturation divers were carried into the waters aboard the uniquely fitted-out USS *Halibut* to retrieve and change the precious tapes. The tap was in service for years.

## GHOST PLANES THAT TEST RADAR

### CODE NAME: PALLADIUM

A constant concern was the accuracy of Soviet radar defences, so the CIA developed many ways to capture and assess radar signals. Perhaps the most innovative of these was PALLADIUM, a device that electronically generated false targets in the shape of any plane to trick the Soviets into making their equipment visible.



## CATO STREET CONSPIRACY



The conspirators wanted to bring down the government, but the government was watching



# TO KILL THE CABINET

Over 200 years after Guy Fawkes, another murderous plot was hatched, which, as **Roger Hermiston** reveals, could have hurled Britain into revolution



Britain edged towards revolt after soldiers turned on the crowds at the Peterloo Massacre



A blue plaque now marks the building where the conspirators gathered

**T**he England of 1820 was a nervous, disordered country on the brink of revolt. Peace with Europe, secured with the end of the Napoleonic Wars five years earlier at Waterloo, ought to have ushered in a period of growing prosperity and progress at home. But when King George III died on 29 January after 60 years on the throne, he bequeathed a nation – to a dissolute son and a repressive government – stricken by austerity and riven by political turmoil.

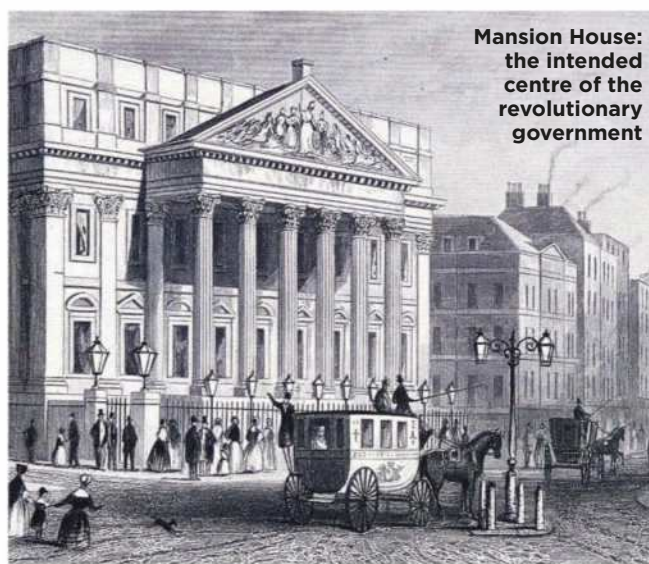
Just three weeks into the new reign of George IV, there was a sensational plot to kill all the members of Cabinet, including the Prime Minister, and set up a revolutionary government along the lines of the Committee of Safety in Robespierre's France 30 years earlier. The Cato Street Conspiracy has been the poor relation of that other violent attempt to overturn the government, the Gunpowder Plot, and historically cast as merely an isolated, forlorn and foolhardy strike against the state by a gang of radical desperadoes. But such a simplistic interpretation does no justice to the significance of the plot.

## LIMITING FREE SPEECH

At no period in British history has social discontent seemed to contemporary observers so likely to erupt in violent revolution. The sequence of events that sparked the plot began with the Peterloo Massacre in August 1819. So-called in mocking comparison to the famous battle, 11 people were killed and over 400 seriously injured, many women and

children, when troops cut through a crowd of around 60,000 non-violent demonstrators on St Peter's Field, on the outskirts of Manchester.

The Tory government of Lord Liverpool responded with punitive legislation, known as the 'Six Acts'. They were aimed at severely limiting free speech and free assembly, while supplying the authorities with greater powers to prosecute critics of the regime. Percy Bysshe Shelley captured the public disquiet in his famous poem *1819*. "Rulers who neither see nor feel nor know, but leechlike to their fainting country cling, till they drop, blind in blood, without a blow." It was in this threatening atmosphere of mistrust and repression that a group of conspirators gathered at Cato Street.



Mansion House: the intended centre of the revolutionary government

Their plot, many months in the making, reached its climax on Wednesday 23 February, one week after the funeral of the King. At 7.30pm, a group of around 30 men crowded into a hayloft upstairs in a small, dilapidated two-storey building in Cato Street, just off Edgware Road in central London. Their mission was to take the 15-minute walk to fashionable Grosvenor Square, to the home of Lord Harrowby, who was Lord President of the Council in the government. Once there, they planned to storm the house as Harrowby, the Prime Minister Lord Liverpool and the rest of the British Cabinet – including the hero of Waterloo, the Duke of Wellington, and Foreign Secretary Lord Castlereagh – were having dinner.

## GRENADES AND GUNS

Arthur Thistlewood, the former soldier who led the Cato Street gang, called it the 'West End Job'. It would start with one of his party knocking on the door, purporting to have a parcel for Lord Harrowby, to allow the gang to burst in. One group would bind – or in the event of resistance, kill – the servants and occupy all quarters of the building, while a second select group, led by Thistlewood, would proceed to the dining room. There, hand grenades would pave the way for an indiscriminate attack on the assembled ministers with guns and knives. Once the entire Cabinet had been murdered, the plan was to use the bodies for a gruesome *pièce de théâtre*. Thistlewood's right-hand man, the former butcher James Ings, would cut off all their heads, and take away two of them, those of the





Before dying, Richard Smithers allegedly called out "Oh God, I am..."

particularly reviled Castlereagh and the Home Secretary, Lord Sidmouth, to be displayed for public edification on spikes on Westminster Bridge.

Thistlewood and his cohorts then planned to seize the King Street Barracks, the Bishop of London's house, the Light House barracks in Gray's Inn Lane, the Bank of England and Mansion House (which would house their provisional government). They were convinced from all their soundings that the country was on the verge of revolt, and that their act would trigger a massive uprising against the decapitated government. They believed disaffected Londoners would spontaneously flock to support the new Committee of Public Safety, while nationwide thousands of working men from Newcastle, Glasgow and Leeds would join the revolution. Thistlewood had even approached the leading Radical John Cam Hobhouse, soon to be MP for Westminster, to be head of the new government. The coup leader was determined this would be Britain's 'Bastille moment'.

But just like the Gunpowder Plot more than two centuries earlier, this strike against the state was foiled by a betrayal from within. This time, however, it was not a question of one member having second thoughts about a momentous plan of treachery. George Edwards was no conspirator at all, but a spy for the

police and his infiltration of the Thistlewood group would reap rich rewards. Indeed, uncovering the Cato Street Conspiracy may well have been the result of more than a straightforward spying exercise by Lord Sidmouth's men, as there is evidence that the government may have been responsible for deliberate acts of provocation. In other words, the Home Secretary could have set the whole thing up to entrap Thistlewood and his colleagues, believing that the best way to avert a revolution was to create one – and then publicly crush it.

Whatever the truth, the plotters did not even get away from Cato Street with their weaponry. The Bow Street Runners, often referred to as London's first professional police force, had watched the house all afternoon on

23 February and when convinced that the full group of conspirators was present, they stormed the hayloft.

During the ensuing battle, Thistlewood ran through one of the Runners, Richard Smithers, with his cavalry sword – the policeman would die of his wounds – and another plotter, Jamaican-born William Davidson, a former sailor in the Navy, put up similarly stern resistance. But when reinforcements from the Coldstream Guards arrived, most of the conspirators were detained at the scene. They were marched off to Bow Street magistrates' court, while the body of

**"The best way to avert a revolution was to create one"**

## WOULD-BE VICTIMS: THE CABINET

### LORD LIVERPOOL PRIME MINISTER

Having witnessed the fall of the Bastille while on a holiday to Paris in 1789, he had a terror of revolution. He struggled to cope with the 1817 economic recession, passing harsh legislation on the working classes, like the Corn Laws and Game Laws. The later 19th-century PM Benjamin Disraeli summed him up: "The Arch-Mediocrity who presided, rather than ruled, over this Cabinet of Mediocrities."



### LORD CASTLEREAGH FOREIGN SECRETARY AND LEADER OF THE COMMONS

"I met Murder on the way – He had a mask like Castlereagh," wrote Shelley after Peterloo and the passing of the Six Acts. A master diplomat in Europe, Castlereagh organised the coalition of nations that eventually crushed Napoleon. He once challenged a Cabinet colleague to a duel.



### THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON MASTER GENERAL OF THE ORDNANCE

The hero of Waterloo had deep Tory views, being the "child and champion of aristocracy", and was determined to guard the rights of property at all costs. He deplored the growing English press, considering it "ignorant, presumptive and licentious".



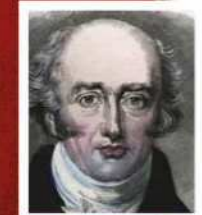
### LORD SIDMOUTH HOME SECRETARY

The architect of the most comprehensive network of informants since the days of Sir Francis Walsingham, Elizabeth I's unofficial spymaster. He also had a reputation as a stern and distant lawmaker. His longevity and loyalty won him little esteem among his senior colleagues. "He is like the smallpox. Everybody is obliged to have him once in their lives," quipped George Canning.



### GEORGE CANNING PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL

A brilliant, theatrical speaker with an acerbic wit, he was the most unconventional and dazzling member of Liverpool's government. But he also gained many political enemies. Pro-French Revolution in his earlier days, he saw democracy as "tyranny and anarchy combined".





# KEY CATO STREET CONSPIRATORS

They were members of the Society of Spencean Philanthropists, a group inspired by charismatic Radical Thomas Spence, and believed a revolution was needed. But on 1 May 1820, their plot foiled, they all died on the gallows



## ◀ ARTHUR THISTLEWOOD

The illegitimate son of a prosperous Lincoln farmer and a shopkeeper's daughter, he forsook a career as a land surveyor to explore the countries where revolution had taken hold, America and France. Before his radical politics, he enlisted in the army and became an expert swordsman. When the Conspiracy was foiled, he put this skill to use by killing a Bow Street Runner.

## JOHN BRUNT

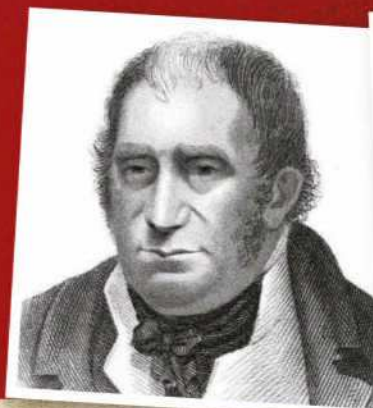
A Londoner and boot maker, whose work was exhibited in a Strand shop's window display. Brunt later found work in Wellington's army in France, where he developed his radicalism.

## JAMES INGS

Born in Portsea, Hampshire, to a family of respectable tradesmen, he initially became a successful butcher. His business declined rapidly, though, in the years of recession after the Napoleonic Wars. In 1819, he established a coffee shop in the East End of London and distributed radical literature.

## ▶ RICHARD TIDD

He was a member of a particularly radical profession, shoemaking, at Hole-in-the-Wall Passage, a slum alley in London. Tidd worked a scam with the British army, using false names to receive multiple bounty payments for joining up.



## ▼ WILLIAM DAVIDSON

His father, the Attorney-General of Jamaica, who had Davidson illegitimately with a local, found him an apprenticeship with a Liverpool lawyer. Instead, Davidson ran away to sea and was press-ganged into the Royal Navy. Later, he turned to radical politics in the wake of the Peterloo Massacre in 1819.



## SPIES ON THE INSIDE

The Cato Street Conspiracy had been undone by a spy, George Edwards, working for the Home Secretary. Lord Sidmouth never struggled to find volunteers for his network, but the quality of his informers – mostly poor men – was patchy. And as local magistrates were in charge of recruitment and deployment, the system was decentralised and he never exercised full control.

The most notorious agent was William J Oliver. After the Pentrich armed uprising in June 1817, which ended with the execution of leader Jeremiah Brandreth and two others, the *Leeds Mercury* exposed Oliver's role as an agent provocateur in that event. The news sparked outrage, and a whole rash of acquittals followed in other cases involving Oliver.

Another spy with unreliable information was petty criminal John Castle, who was the chief witness when Arthur Thistlewood first stood trial – after riots broke out at mass demonstrations at Spa Fields, Islington.

Lord Sidmouth finally found his man in Edwards, a modeller well-known for his plaster-of-Paris busts of the famous, which he sold on street corners. He infiltrated the Spencean group planning the Cato Street Conspiracy so successfully that Thistlewood made him his aide-de-camp, giving him access to every last detail of the plot.

George Edwards gave plans and funds to the plotters, while informing to the police



◀ Smithers was taken from the loft and laid out in a room at the nearby Horse & Groom pub.

Yet a number of plotters escaped in the darkness and confusion, including Thistlewood himself. Londoners awoke the following morning to read an extraordinary announcement in *The London Gazette*. Signed by the Home Secretary, it urged them to help find Thistlewood, who stood charged with high treason, and offered £1,000 for information leading to his arrest. A full description of the wanted man was provided: "The above-named Arthur Thistlewood is about forty-eight years of age, five feet ten inches high, has a sallow complexion, long visage, a wide mouth and a good set of teeth, has a scar under his right jaw, is slender made, and has the appearance of a military man... he usually wears a blue long coat and blue pantaloons."

Thistlewood had wisely not returned to his home in Stanhope Street, but instead had holed up at 8 White Street, Little Moorfields. Nonetheless, a neighbour spotted him and immediately alerted the Runners. They had arrived by nine o'clock in the morning and were let in by the landlady, Mrs Harris. Thistlewood was caught as he slept, with leader of the Runners Daniel Bishop

handcuffing the coup leader in his bed, before he knew what was happening. He was fully clothed with ball cartridges and flints still in his pockets.

## DYING WITHOUT NOISE

In all, 13 plotters were arrested and charged with treason. Included in their various interrogations during February and March were extraordinary sessions with the Privy Council, where they had dramatic face-to-face meetings with the very men they had intended to murder.

Government accounts painted a picture of a somewhat dishevelled, yet calm and collected Thistlewood. "When before the Privy Council, his dress was an old black coat and waistcoat, very much worn, and old worsted stockings. His general appearance indicated great distress; his limbs were slender, and his countenance squalid and somewhat dejected. There was nothing of agitation in his manner. He sat with his eyes fixed chiefly on the ground."

Across the table sat Lords Liverpool, Sidmouth, Castlereagh and Harrowby, and the Duke of Wellington. At one of these encounters, the military hero had to listen to an affidavit read out in which Thistlewood said, "I would rather kill that damned villain Wellington than any of them." This was followed by "great





LEFT: Prisoners at Coldbath Fields worked on a giant treadmill to grind flour  
RIGHT: The five plotters were left hanging for half an hour before being beheaded



## “Thistlewood was caught as he slept, handcuffed in his bed”

mirth” erupting among those in the room as the two men stared at each other impassively.

At the final session between the failed revolutionaries and their would-be victims on 23 March, Thistlewood simply refused to engage when charges of murder and high treason were laid against him. Ings was equally sullen, but snapped at the Prime Minister and his colleagues: “It is want of food which has brought us here. Death would be a pleasure to me... if I had 50 necks, I’d rather have them all broken, one after the other, than see my children starve.”

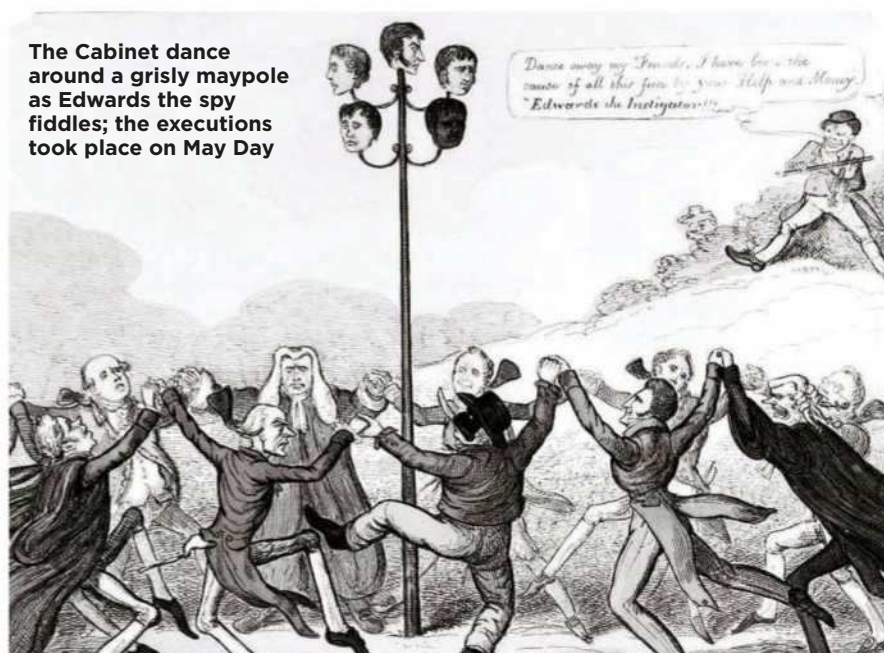
Eight of the men were sent under cavalry escort to the Tower of London to await trial, while the rest were taken to the notorious Coldbath Fields Prison in Clerkenwell. Thistlewood was placed in the Bloody Tower, where another famous conspirator, Sir Walter Raleigh, had resided for 13 years in the reign of King James I. At the trial in April, Thistlewood freely admitted his guilt, but never showed any remorse as he aggressively and eloquently hammered home his motives. “I died when liberty and justice had been driven from this country’s confines

by a set of villains, whose thirst for blood is only to be equalled by their activity in plunder.”

Thistlewood and four of his co-conspirators – Ings, Davidson, John Brunt and Richard Tidd – were convicted and sentenced to be hanged, quartered and beheaded (although, the grisly middle feature of the punishment was later remitted). Sentences of death on another five were commuted to transportation for life.

The five met their fate at Newgate Prison on the morning of 1 May 1820 in front of a crowd of about 100,000, some having paid three guineas for a good vantage point from the windows of houses overlooking the scaffold. To keep the peace, infantry were stationed nearby and out of sight of the crowd, including two troops of Life Guards and eight artillery pieces commanding the road at Blackfriars Bridge.

“The men died like heroes,” John Cam Hobhouse recorded in his diary that night. Ings lustily sang the anthem of the Radicals, *Death or Liberty*, as he awaited the tightening of the noose. But Thistlewood, calm to the last, sharply told his friend, “Be quiet, Ings. We can die without all this noise.”



## WHAT HAPPENED NEXT

The trauma of the Cato Street Conspiracy had a sobering effect on reactionaries and radicals alike. “From that day”, wrote journalist William Cobbett, “the tone of the sons of corruption became less insolent and audacious.” Meanwhile the tone of the sons of liberty became less truculent. Peterloo had been a warning light, and improbable though it seemed at the time, Cato Street proved a catalyst for change. Despite being a failure, it helped set a new course, which was to lead directly to the Great Reform Act of 1832 and the first significant extension of the franchise.



# LEE MILLER

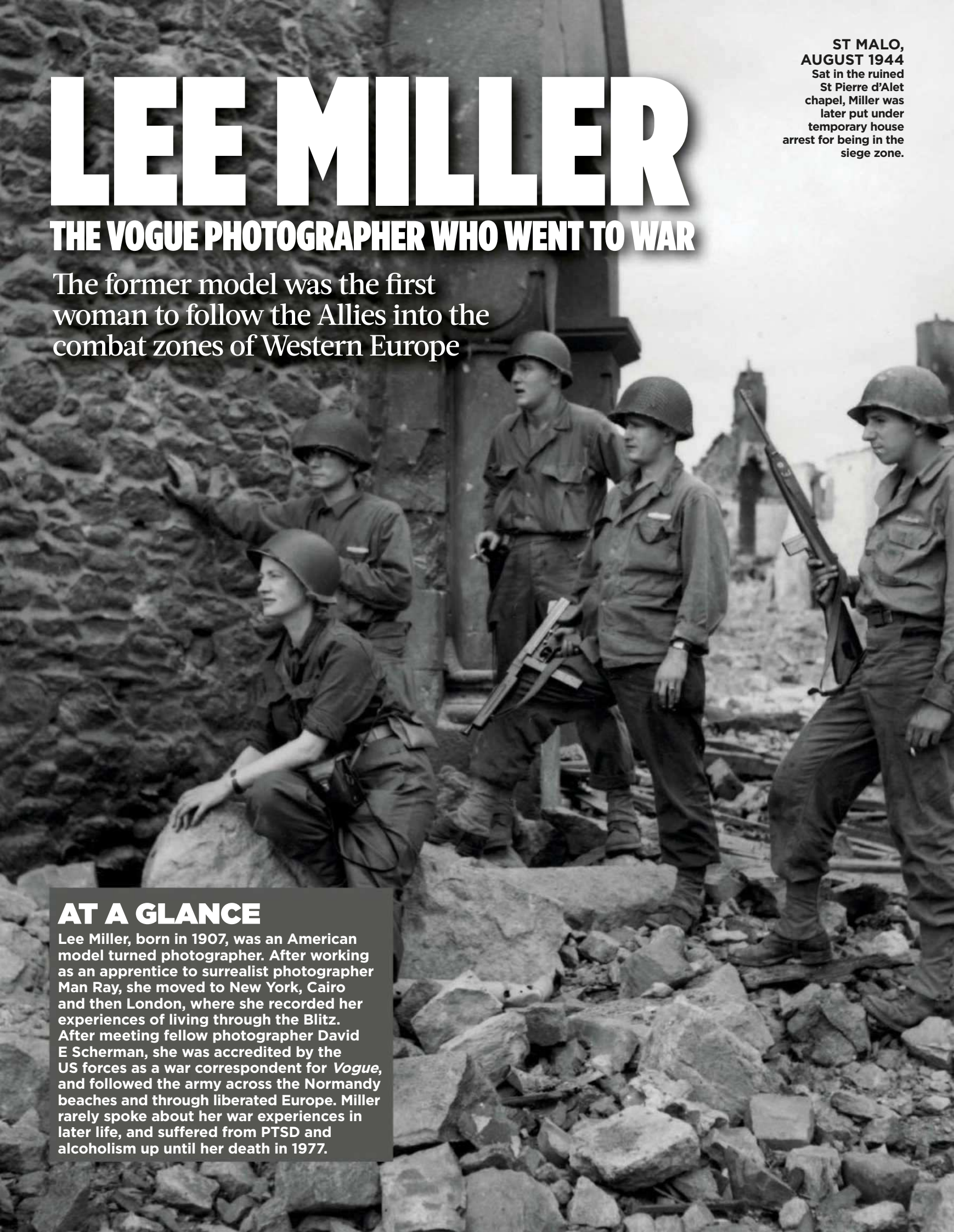
## THE VOGUE PHOTOGRAPHER WHO WENT TO WAR

The former model was the first woman to follow the Allies into the combat zones of Western Europe

ST MALO,  
AUGUST 1944  
Sat in the ruined  
St Pierre d'Alet  
chapel, Miller was  
later put under  
temporary house  
arrest for being in the  
siege zone.

### AT A GLANCE

Lee Miller, born in 1907, was an American model turned photographer. After working as an apprentice to surrealist photographer Man Ray, she moved to New York, Cairo and then London, where she recorded her experiences of living through the Blitz. After meeting fellow photographer David E Scherman, she was accredited by the US forces as a war correspondent for *Vogue*, and followed the army across the Normandy beaches and through liberated Europe. Miller rarely spoke about her war experiences in later life, and suffered from PTSD and alcoholism up until her death in 1977.





# 44TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL, 1944

This makeshift hospital near La Cambe, Normandy, was a theatre of pain and hope

IN PICTURES

**“THE INFANTRY NEVER STOPS FOR LACK OF PETROL ... THEY OBEY”**

LEE MILLER



## KEEPING UP SPIRITS

Miller was happiest amongst the GIs, wounded or not, and they enjoyed talking to her. She was asked by this man, suffering serious burns, to take his picture. He wanted to know how ‘funny’ he looked.



## UNDER THE KNIFE

Complex operations were carried out in all conditions. The surgeons needed no warning when the camera flashed – they could continue their delicate work surrounded by gunfire.

## THE TRUTH OF WAR

*Vogue* printed everything Miller sent them, no matter how much gore and violence was shown. The image below shows an exhausted nurse after a particularly brutal shift caring for the wounded.



## NORMANDY, JUNE 1944

Miller reached France less than a month after D-Day with the crew of a tank landing ship – a huge vessel that ferried Allied armour to France.

## ST MALO, AUGUST 1944

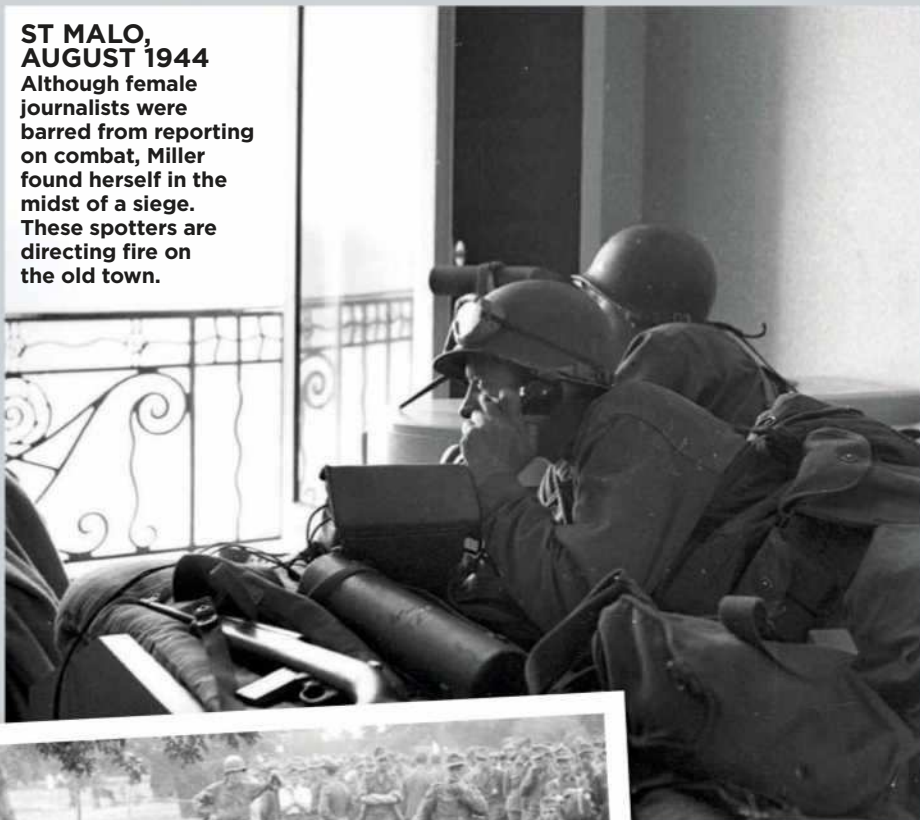
The town of St Malo was nearly obliterated by British and American bombing. The fortress here was one of the most well-defended German strongholds.



© LEE MILLER ARCHIVES/ENGLAND 2018/ALL RIGHTS RESERVED/LEEMILLER.CO.UK X6



**ST MALO, AUGUST 1944**  
Although female journalists were barred from reporting on combat, Miller found herself in the midst of a siege. These spotters are directing fire on the old town.



**ST MALO, AUGUST 1944**  
A smiling US soldier guards POWs; the city surrendered on 17 August, though pockets of resistance held out for another two weeks.

**ST MALO, AUGUST 1944**  
Miller was probably unaware that she had photographed one of the first napalm strikes. The negatives were confiscated on her return to the US.



## PARTIES AND PUNISHMENTS

Liberation saw retribution and revenge as well as celebrations



**RENNES, AUGUST 1944**  
French women suspected of collaborating with Germans had their heads shaved and were paraded through the streets. Miller called them "stupid little girls not intelligent enough to feel ashamed".



**PARIS, AUGUST 1944**  
After the brutality of combat, Miller witnessed the liberation of Paris in 1944. The whole city breathed a sigh of relief and celebrated with the "world's most gigantic party".

**LUXEMBOURG, SEPTEMBER 1944**  
These joyful photos are a stark contrast to Miller's combat images. The country suffered devastating losses during the war: 5,700 deaths, equivalent to two per cent of the population.





**ALSACE,  
JANUARY 1945**

The Allies had to cope with varying and extreme conditions as they marched towards Germany. This group of US infantry is moving through Alsace.

**“HER MISSION WAS TO  
TELL THE WORLD THE REALITY  
OF WHAT SHE SAW”**

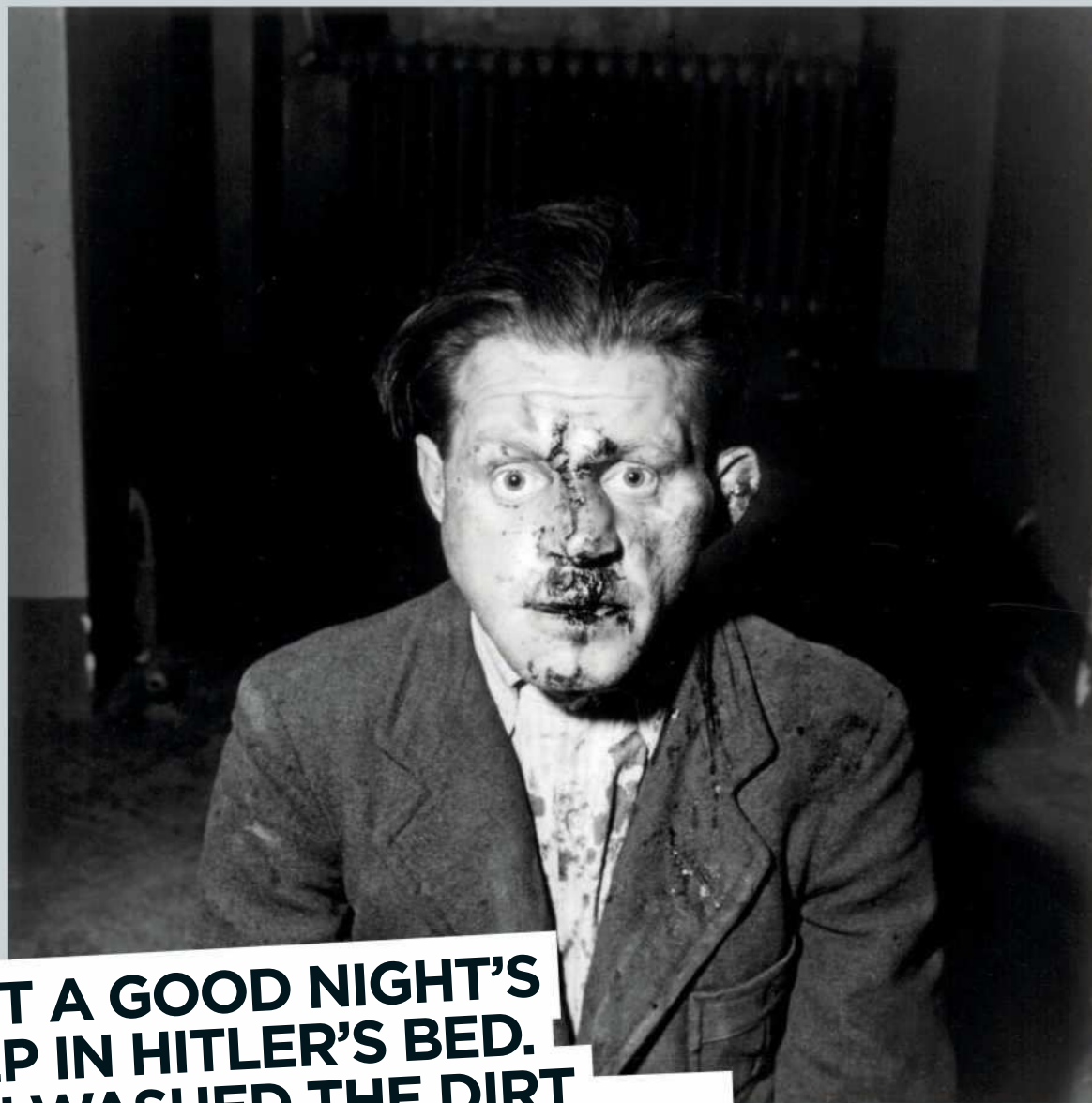
ANTHONY PENROSE, DIRECTOR OF THE LEE MILLER ARCHIVE







**DACHAU, APRIL 1945**  
Miller arrived at the Dachau concentration camp one day after its liberation. Even the most hardened soldiers were shaken by what they saw there.



**"I GOT A GOOD NIGHT'S  
SLEEP IN HITLER'S BED.  
I EVEN WASHED THE DIRT  
OF DACHAU IN HIS TUB"**

LEE MILLER

**BUCHENWALD,  
APRIL 1945**

This SS guard was severely beaten after the Buchenwald camp's liberation. Many former prison guards attempted to blend in with civilians, but were quickly given up by their former captives.



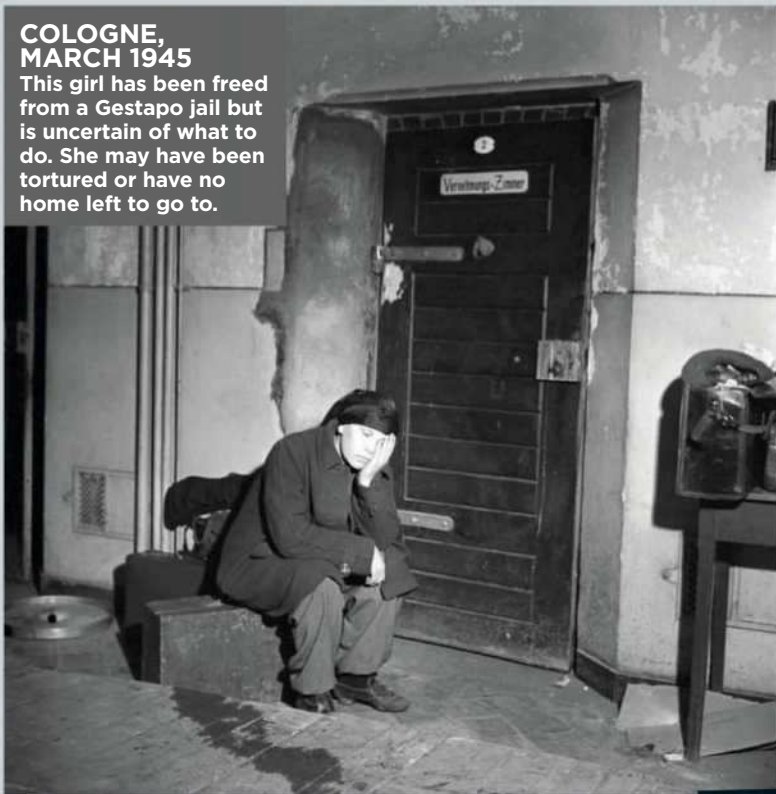
**DACHAU, APRIL 1945**

These guards were caught trying to disguise themselves in prison clothing in an attempt to avoid capture. They would end up on the other side of the bars: Dachau was used in the years after the war to hold SS guards awaiting trial.



**COLOGNE,  
MARCH 1945**

This girl has been freed from a Gestapo jail but is uncertain of what to do. She may have been tortured or have no home left to go to.



**BERCHTESGADEN, APRIL 1945**

German POWs march near the Berghof, Hitler's mountain retreat, where Miller "saw the war end" as the house went up in flames.



**"MILLER'S 'RESTLESSNESS'  
WAS AN ENDLESS, GNAWING  
CURIOSITY TO SEE WHAT  
WAS AROUND THE  
NEXT CORNER"**

DAVID E SCHERMAN



**MUNICH,  
APRIL 1945**

Probably the most iconic image of Lee Miller is her bathing in Hitler's tub. The army moved into his Munich apartment and she was there when Hitler's death was announced.



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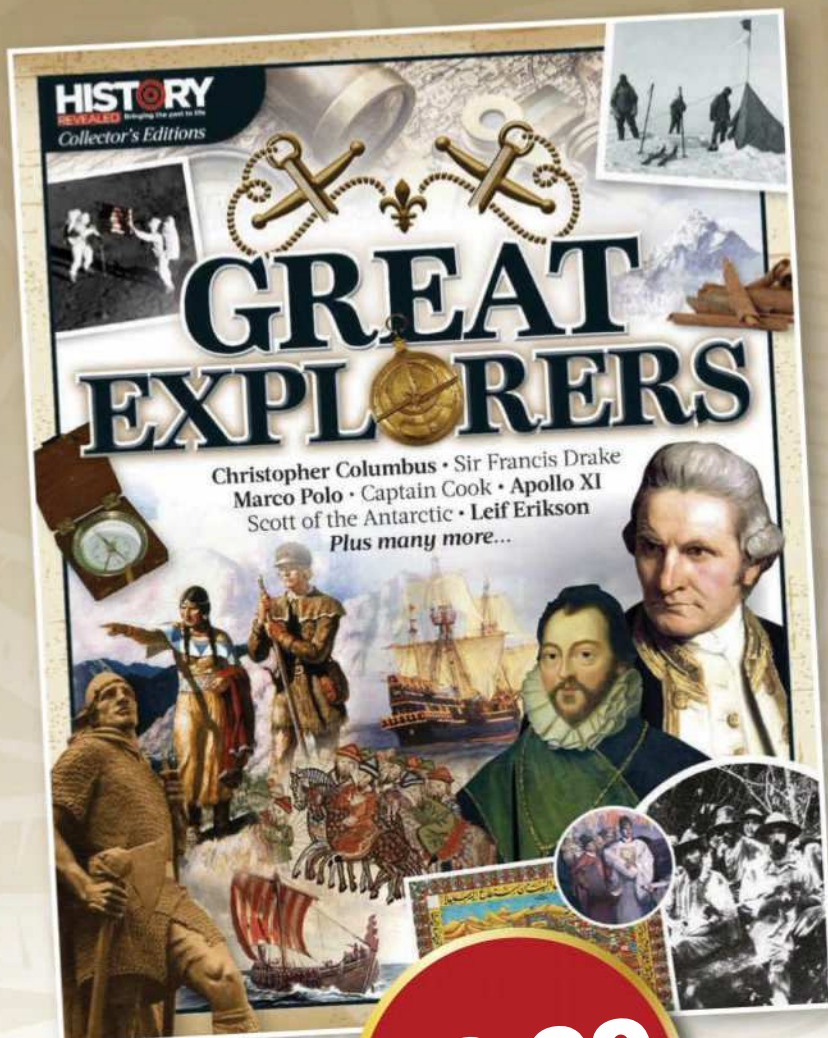
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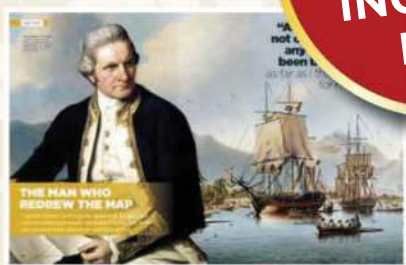
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# Q&A

YOU ASK, WE ANSWER



## DID YOU KNOW?

### WHAT A BIG HEAD

According to the historian Suetonius, the infamous Roman emperor Caligula wanted one of the Seven Wonders, the Statue of Zeus, to have its head removed and replaced with his own likeness.

**ENTER THROUGH THE GAIT**  
The Colossus was as famous in the ancient world as the Statue of Liberty is today; from feet to crown, it was roughly the same height too



## WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SEVEN WONDERS?



In antiquity, they formed a travel guide of human-made splendours around the Mediterranean, and even then a level of mystery surrounded them. That reputation has only increased over the centuries, as all but one have been lost.

Earthquakes claimed three Wonders with weak foundations. The Colossus of Rhodes, a 33.5-metre statue of the sun god Helios, stood for less than 60 years in the third century BC before collapsing. A similar fate

befell the Lighthouse at Alexandria, a narrow tower 140-metres tall, and the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus, a magnificent tomb built from 353-50 BC for Mausolus, a satrap (governor) in the Persian Empire.

Fire destroyed at least one more, if not two. The Statue of Zeus, erected in the fifth century BC, was possibly pilfered from the temple at Olympus and taken to Constantinople, where it perished. And the white marble Temple of Artemis, which went through several

incarnations due to damage, famously went up in flames in 356 BC. It was torched by Herostratus, a man so desperate for fame that he willingly desecrated a Wonder.

There is no way of knowing what became of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon as they may never have existed at all, although there is a wealth of theories. But the last Wonder still stands. No surprise it survived the ages – the Great Pyramid of Giza, constructed c2,500 BC, has a base of 13 acres to keep it stable.

GETTY



## WHY ARE THERE GOATS IN THE MILITARY?



William 'Billy' Windsor, Shenkin IV and Fusilier Llywelyn – they have all served in the British Army's Royal Welsh regiment, and they are all goats. Regimental mascots are not that unusual, but these goats are more than that: they have a rank and so have to be saluted.

The tradition goes back to 1775, during the American Revolutionary War, when it's said that a wild goat walked, carefree, onto a battlefield at Bunker Hill and led away the colours of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, an antecedent of the current Royal Welsh regiment. The story may be apocryphal, but the idea caught on. Queen Victoria was presented with a pair of Kashmir goats by Mohammad Shah Qajar, King of Persia, and the resulting herd still provides each new recruit.

Before retiring in 2009, Billy was temporarily demoted for "unacceptable behaviour". He tried to headbutt a drummer.

**A EWE AND A CRY**  
Some might say Billy was merely acting the goat



### HARBOURING A GRUDGE

"Remember Pearl Harbor!" became an oft-uttered battle cry in WWII

## HOW MANY DIED AT PEARL HARBOR?



The Japanese attack on 7 December 1941 – "A date which will live in infamy," as declared by President Roosevelt – took everyone by surprise. With the US naval base on Hawaii relatively undefended, the bombings took out hundreds of ships, aircraft and buildings. All eight battleships in port were crippled. The USS *Arizona* suffered the

most, sinking with 1,177 sailors trapped inside.

In all, it is thought that 2,403 Americans died and 1,000 were wounded, among them 68 civilians. The Japanese may have lost as few as 30 planes and 55 men. It was a shocking blow for the US, but not enough to stop Roosevelt from entering World War II.

# 56

The age of the oldest soldier to go ashore on D-Day, Brigadier General Theodore Roosevelt Jr (son of the former president). He needed a cane to walk, but won the Medal of Honor for leading his troops.

## What was the Berners Street Hoax?



One of the most ambitious pranks of all time. It kicked off at 5am on 27 November 1810, when a chimney sweep arrived at 54 Berners Street, London. The resident, Mrs Tottenham, hadn't called for one.

For the rest of the day, the house was bombarded by a stream of merchants, tradesmen and dignitaries. There were bakers, butchers, brewers, mongers, wig makers, upholsterers, gardeners, chefs and cobblers. Deliveries flooded in of

food, furniture, pianos and a pipe organ. Then came the doctors, apothecaries, lawyers and a line of London's elite – including the governor of the Bank of England, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Mayor. The police only stopped the mayhem by closing the street.

Behind it all was Theodore Hook, who had bet a friend he could make any house the most talked about spot in London. He sat in a house opposite number 54 and watched the carnage unfold.

**BY HOOK OR CROOK**  
Be it butchers, bakers or candlestick makers... they all turned up at No 54





**PUNCH OUT**  
Gloves or no, going  
a few rounds was not  
to be taken lightly

**ONE SHOT  
AT GLORY**  
Champs Connelly  
and Cooper did  
not compete in a  
second Olympics



## Who won the first Olympic gold?

🎯 Medals didn't feature in the ancient Olympics – winners received an olive wreath. When the games were reborn in 1896, first place originally earned silver. The now-familiar gold, silver and bronze line-up first appeared at the St Louis games in 1904.

As they were retroactively awarded, though, it could be claimed that American James Connelly was first to go gold for winning the triple jump on the first morning of the 1896 Athens Olympics. He went on to place second in the high jump and third in the long jump.

Women didn't compete in the 1896 games, as their participation had initially been deemed to be "impractical, uninteresting, unaesthetic and incorrect". The inaugural female gold medallists came in 1900: English tennis champ Charlotte Cooper for an individual event, and Swiss Hélène de Portales as part of a team for the 1-2 ton sailing race.

**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

**COLLECTING STARS**  
Nintendo – the company that would bring the world Super Mario, Pokémon and Zelda – was founded in the same year that Vincent van Gogh painted his masterpiece 'The Starry Night', 1889.

**NO JUDGE,  
JUST JURY**  
Imagine trying to  
bribe a jury more  
than 200 strong



## When were **Queensberry Rules** introduced?

🎯 Boxing rules had been sparse before the 19th century, with the chief innovation being a ban on butting, gouging and kicking. But the sport would change forever in 1867, when the 12 Queensberry Rules were published.

Although written by Welsh sportsman John Graham Chambers, the rules took the name of their sponsor, the Marquess of Queensberry – the same one who

famously had a legal spat with Oscar Wilde. They set the length of each round to three minutes, gave a felled fighter ten seconds to get up and, most importantly, introduced gloves.


The rules were dismissed by some as making boxing unmanly. They didn't bring an end to bareknuckle brawls, but soon pugilists preferred the greater focus on strategy that gloved fighting brought.

## WHERE WERE THE FIRST JURIES HELD?

🎯 Athens was the engine powering social change in Ancient Greece, from democracy to theatre to the law courts. With greater emphasis on the voice of the people, the first juries appeared c590 BC. Forget the look of today's courtroom dramas, though: the number of (male-only) jurors started at 201 and could go into the thousands. Understandably, reaching a unanimous decision proved tricky, so judgement was dealt by a majority vote. Jurors used bronze discs, with either a solid or hollow axle, to say whether those on trial were guilty or innocent.



## Is it true that the Americans made a special **space pen**?

 As the story goes, NASA, desperate to win the space race at any cost, spent millions of dollars developing a pen that could work in space, while the thrifty Soviet cosmonauts took a pencil.

Well, it's more complicated than that. Both countries used cheap pencils, but the graphite could break off and get into machinery, and pencils are far more flammable than is ideal for a tin can in space.

So, in 1965, American businessman Paul C Fisher invested \$1 million of his company's money to make a space pen. It worked upside down, underwater and across a huge temperature range (although if too hot, the ink turned green). He offered his pen, AG-7, to NASA, who bought 400 at under three bucks each. As for the Soviets, they put in an order too.




**10,316**

The number of days the Berlin Wall stood. On 5 February 2018, it had officially been down for as long as it was up (1961-89).



**LIKE A CAR CRASH**  
Anmer was running at 35 miles per hour when he struck Davison

## DID EMILY DAVISON MEAN TO KILL HERSELF?

 The tragedy is well known: committed suffragette Emily Wilding Davison ran in front of Anmer, King George V's horse, at the Epsom Derby on 4 June 1913 and was trampled. Never regaining consciousness, she died four days later.

To the suffragettes, Davison became a martyr, but others were quick to label her an unhinged, suicidal fanatic. Despite the moment being caught on film, the debate over her intent on that day continues.

The chief supporting argument for Davison being suicidal is that she had become increasingly radical. During her many imprisonments, she was forcibly fed and, when she barricaded her cell door, guards flooded


the room until she nearly drowned. On more than one occasion, Davison threw herself over stair railings, seemingly to kill herself, but escaped with minor injuries. She had told the prison doctor that a "tragedy is wanted".

There is evidence, however, to suggest that she didn't know that this tragedy would be at the Derby.

A return train ticket was found in her purse following the incident, as well as a ticket to a dance that evening. It also emerged that she had been excitedly planning a trip to France to see her sister.

Historians have claimed that suffragettes had practised grabbing horses beforehand and drew lots to determine who would disrupt the Derby by tying their colours to the King's horse. Maybe Davison was willing to die for the cause, but just didn't mean to that day.

## DID JESTERS ONLY EXIST IN MEDIEVAL TIMES?

 The image that comes to mind certainly tends to be of a lute-playing fool, in a colourful motley onesie and pointed hat with bells on, entertaining a medieval banquet with songs, stories, juggling and risqué jokes about the monarch. Yet jesters have appeared through millennia across many civilisations. The earliest record comes from the Fifth Dynasty of Ancient Egypt, where pygmies danced for pharaohs. Fools can also be found in Roman, Aztec, Chinese and Indian history, to name a few.

Jesters fell out of favour in Britain with the Civil Wars – it's little surprise that Oliver Cromwell didn't see the funny side – but, before losing his head for real, Charles I lost his head laughing at his fool, 'Royal Dwarf' Jeffrey Hudson. His specialty was to hide in a pie and jump out.



Thanks to Richard Ives for sending in his questions

### NOW SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS



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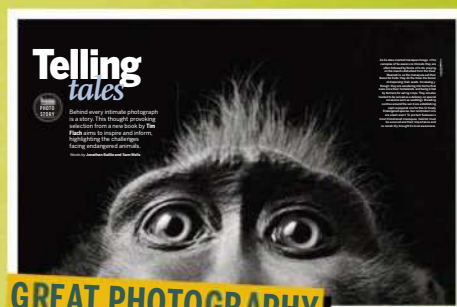


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# RadioTimes

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Radio Times presents an affectionate, picture-rich tribute to the beloved Home Guard sitcom in its golden anniversary year. Reminisce over the classic BBC television series with:

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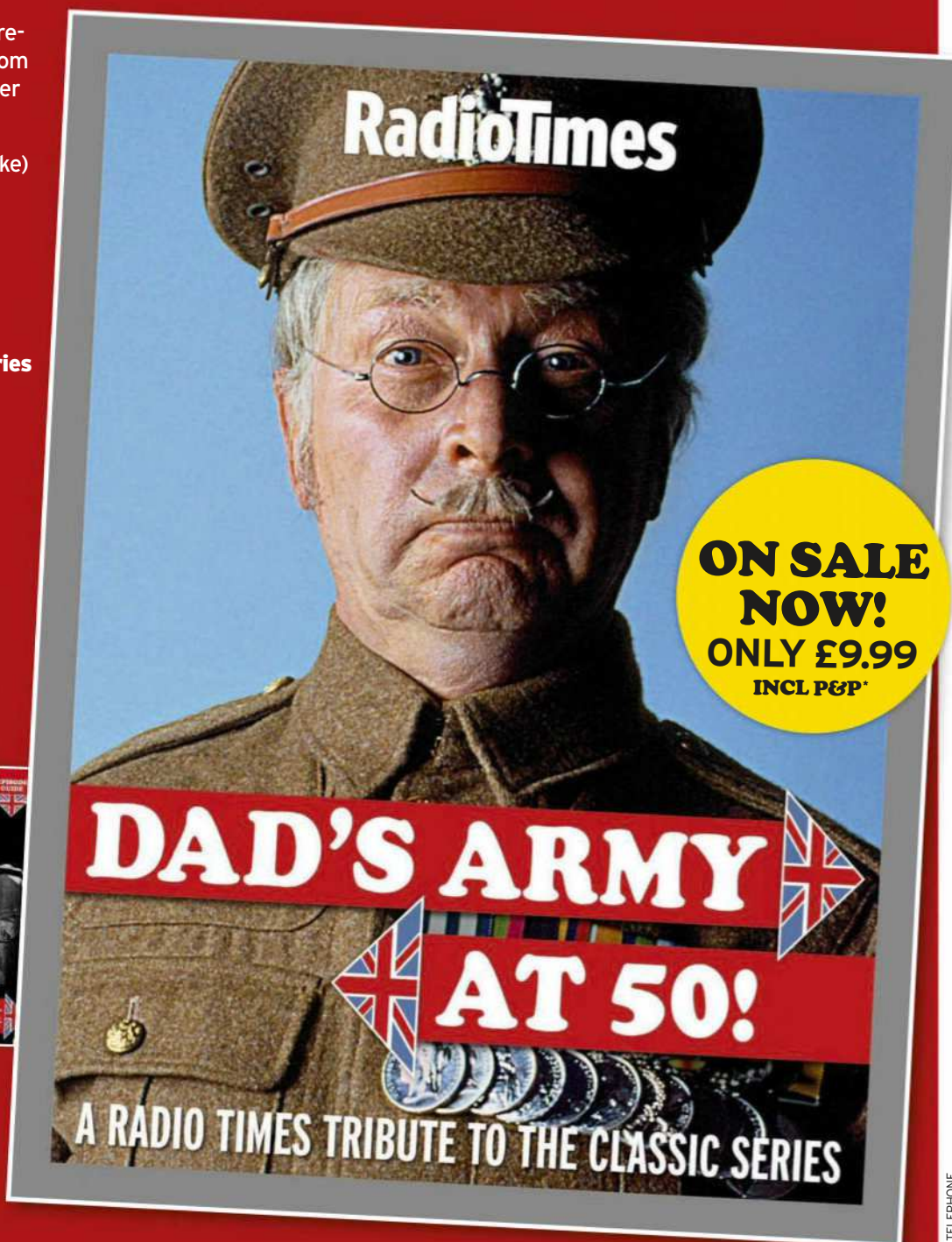
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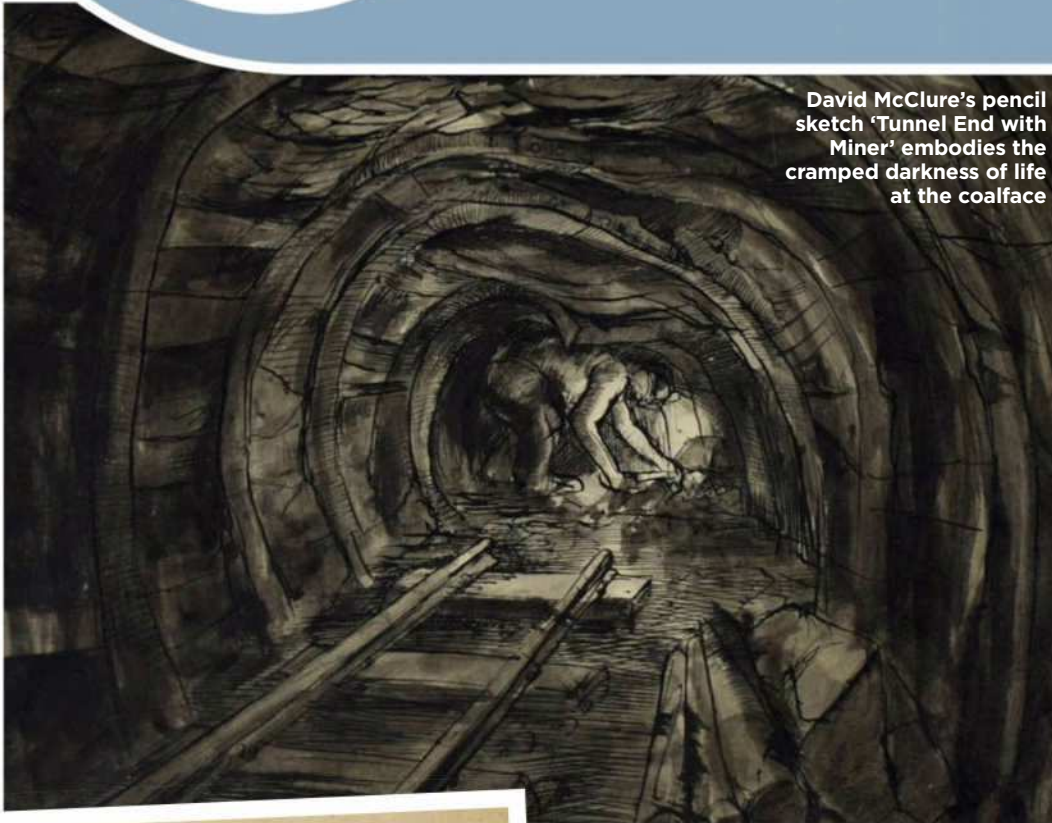
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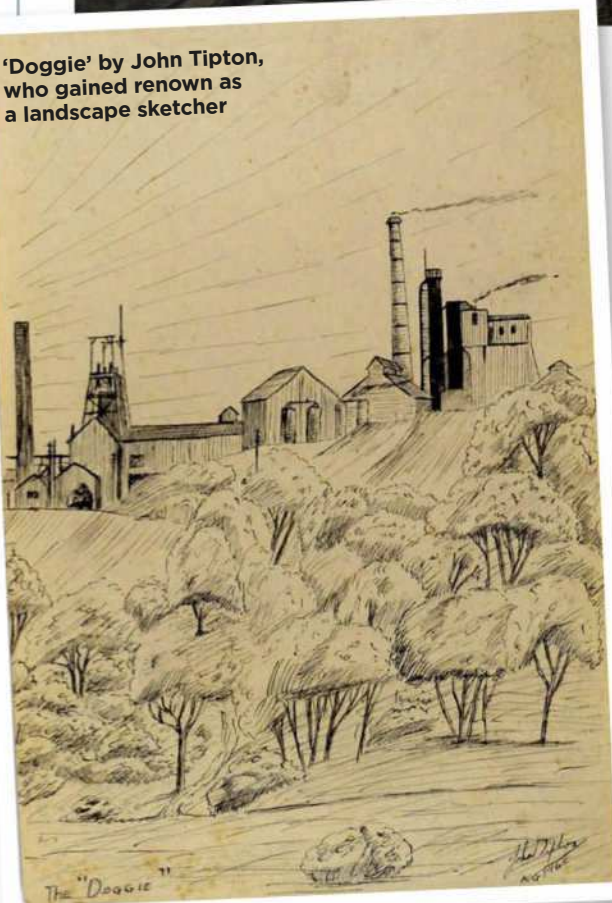
# ON OUR RADAR

A guide to what's happening in  
the world of history over  
the coming weeks



David McClure's pencil sketch 'Tunnel End with Miner' embodies the cramped darkness of life at the coalface

'Doggie' by John Tipton, who gained renown as a landscape sketcher



## EXHIBITION

### The Bevin Boys – War's Forgotten Workforce

Ends 30 September, Mining Art Gallery, Bishop Auckland, [www.aucklandcastle.org/events](http://www.aucklandcastle.org/events)

This art exhibition commemorates 75 years since the launch of the Bevin Boys scheme – which saw 48,000 men conscripted to work in British mines during World War II to ensure a steady supply of coal. Yet their contribution to the conflict is still largely unknown, and it was only in 2007 that the UK government formally acknowledged the Bevin Boys' efforts. Many miners used art as an escape and as a way to express their experiences underground; through the artworks on display here, the exhibitors reveal the hidden side of an overlooked band of brothers.

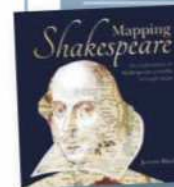
## WHAT'S ON

The new film *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*..... p79



## BRITAIN'S TREASURES

The royal residence Windsor Castle..... p84



## BOOK REVIEWS

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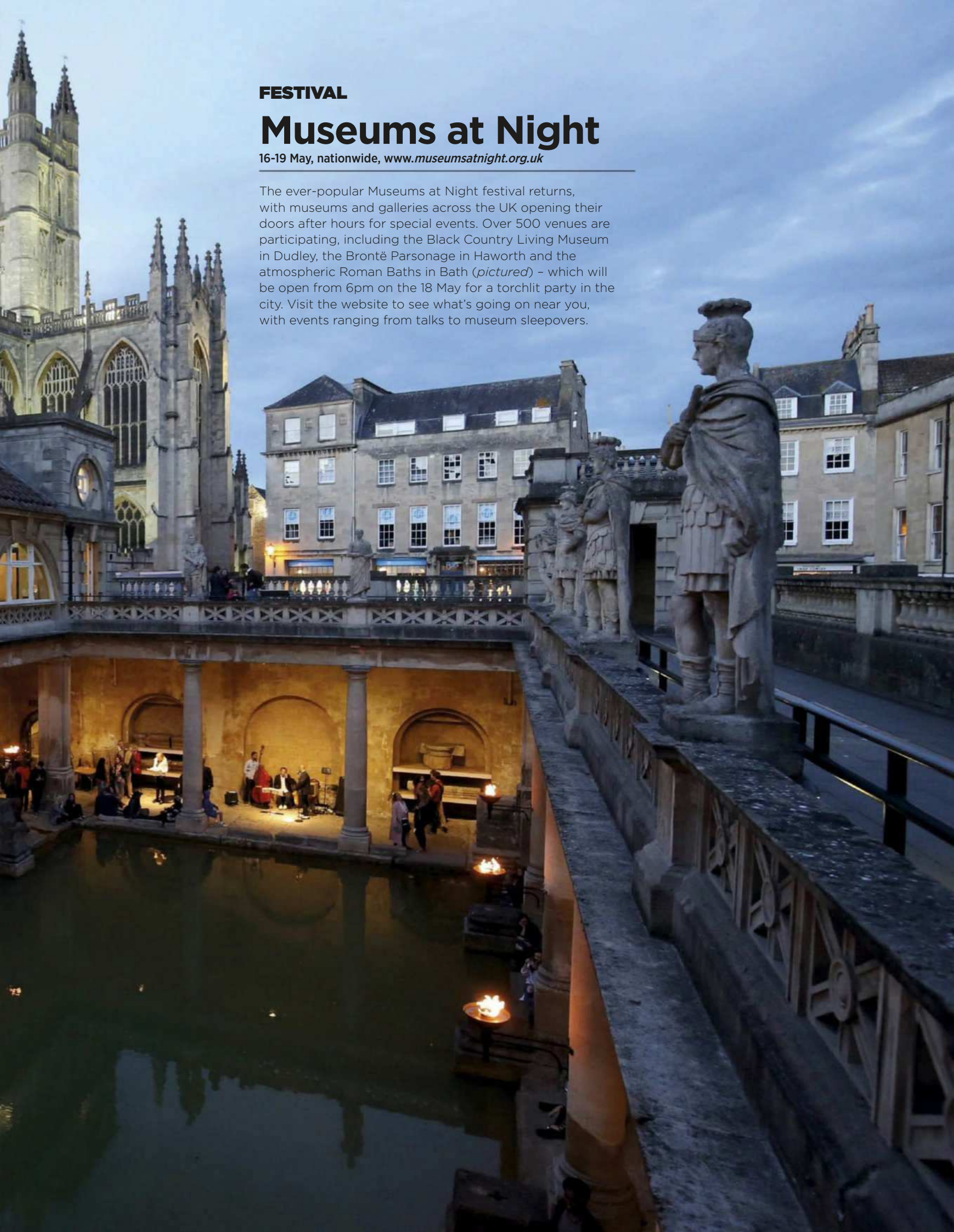
**FESTIVAL**

# Museums at Night

16-19 May, nationwide, [www.museumsatnight.org.uk](http://www.museumsatnight.org.uk)

---

The ever-popular Museums at Night festival returns, with museums and galleries across the UK opening their doors after hours for special events. Over 500 venues are participating, including the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley, the Brontë Parsonage in Haworth and the atmospheric Roman Baths in Bath (*pictured*) – which will be open from 6pm on the 18 May for a torchlit party in the city. Visit the website to see what's going on near you, with events ranging from talks to museum sleepovers.





## EXHIBITION

# Beer: A History of Brewing and Drinking at Temple Newsam

Ends 27 October, Temple Newsam House, Leeds,  
[www.leeds.gov.uk/museumsandgalleries/templenewsamhouse](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/museumsandgalleries/templenewsamhouse)

Only water and tea are drunk more frequently than beer worldwide. By following the history of the hoppy beverage alongside the story of 500-year-old Temple Newsam House, visitors will learn how the inhabitants enjoyed beer in moments of illness as well as celebration. At one time, beer was even used as a cure for jaundice. The programme of events includes beer tastings.

The paintings on display show how beer was very much part of everyday life



ABOVE: Beer made people happy, according to artist William Hogarth – this scene of contentment forms a counter to another print, depicting the evils of gin. RIGHT: Beer paraphernalia will also be on display





## ANNIVERSARY

### Royal Academy of Arts

New galleries open from 19 May, London, [www.royalacademy.org.uk](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk)

To celebrate 250 years of the Royal Academy of Arts, a major transformation has been taking place. The Academy has expanded to connect Burlington House and Gardens, opening up 70 per cent more space for exhibitions and displays. An exhibition by British artist Tacita Dean will unveil the new Gabrielle Jungels-Winkler Gallery at the grand opening.



Tacita Dean preps her latest landscape, 'The Montafon Letter'

## TO BUY

### Sword Bookends

£50, Historic Royal Palaces shop, [www.historicroyalpalaces.com](http://www.historicroyalpalaces.com)

Bookworm and medieval enthusiast? These striking sword bookends will protect your favourite books whilst giving the illusion that they've been stabbed right through the middle.



## FESTIVAL

### Festival of Museums Scotland

18-20 May, museums across Scotland, [www.festivalofmuseums.co.uk](http://www.festivalofmuseums.co.uk)

The Festival of Museums is back with fun being the key theme this year. After last year's success, which saw young visitors take part in mini archaeological digs and visit a replica World War I trench, this year is expected to be even bigger. There's something for kids, big and small, and museums across Scotland will be hosting their own unique activities to ensure everyone makes the most of their favourite heritage places.



## FILM

### The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society

In cinemas 20 April



The film explores how books can offer some much needed escapism in times of strife

Based on the 2008 novel by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Burrows, this romantic drama tells the story of writer Juliet Ashton, portrayed by Lily James, who travels to Guernsey in the aftermath of World War II. Here she discovers the trials the residents suffered during the Nazi occupation of the Channel Islands, and the book club that kept them all going. The cast stars many *Downton Abbey* alumni, including Jessica Brown Findlay, Matthew Goode and Penelope Wilton.

## ▶ ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

- ▶ Doncaster Heritage Festival - A local history festival, including a talk by Philippa Langley, 28 April - 13 May 2018. [www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/culture-leisure-tourism](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/culture-leisure-tourism)
- ▶ The Abyssinian War, 1867-68 - A talk on the exorbitant campaign against Emperor Theodore II of Ethiopia, National Army Museum, London, 27 April. [www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on](http://www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on)



**CROWN MOULDING**

The Round Tower is the heart of the Windsor, built on William the Conqueror's original earthen motte, the oldest part of the castle. Despite its name, the tower isn't actually round; it has a square southern side.

**FIT FOR THE QUEEN**

The castle has the oldest working kitchen in the country. Its clocks run five minutes fast to ensure its food is never served late



## BRITAIN'S TREASURES...

# WINDSOR CASTLE Berkshire

On 19 May, this royal residence will host Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's wedding, but that is only the latest chapter of a story that spans more than 900 years

**GETTING THERE:**

There are car parks in Windsor town centre and buses run from central London. The nearest train stations are Windsor & Eton Central and Windsor & Eton Riverside.

**OPENING TIMES AND PRICES:**

Adult tickets cost £21.20; discounts are available and under fives go free. The castle is open 9.45am-4.15pm in November to February and 9.30am-5.15pm in March to October.

**FIND OUT MORE:**

[www.royalcollection.org.uk/visit/windsorcastle](http://www.royalcollection.org.uk/visit/windsorcastle)



**W**hen George V shrewdly decided to change the title of his royal house from the wholly German-sounding Saxe-Coburg and Gotha during World War I, the name of a favoured residence stood out. 'Windsor' had strength, heritage and a sense of Englishness, evoking the castle's relationship with the monarchy since the 11th century.

Construction began shortly after the Norman Conquest. William the Conqueror chose the site, close to the Thames, where he established a motte and bailey to defend the

western route into London. Though William himself did not stay at Windsor, its location appealed to Henry I as a residence.

Under subsequent kings, the fort turned into a palace. Henry II replaced the keep with the landscape-defining Round Tower. Henry III spent large sums on repairs and extensions. Edward III, the first monarch born at Windsor, went further: he forked out £50,000 – the most spent by a medieval king on a single building – to make it the centre of his court and, in 1348, established the Order of the Garter, based at the new St

George's Chapel. The works proved so extensive that it continued after Edward's death some 20 years later.

**A DIPLOMATIC HUB**

Now boasting luxury apartments around its courts (the Upper and Lower Wards), Windsor remained a favourite; Henry V hosted the Holy Roman Emperor there in 1417.

The annual Garter feasts grew more flamboyant, especially under Henry VIII. Much like everything else, Windsor divided the Tudors. Edward VI disliked the place, but Elizabeth I used it in times





## WHAT TO LOOK FOR...



### 1 STATE APARTMENTS

Many of the lavish rooms had to be restored after a fire in November 1992. Luckily, there was time to save many priceless works of art that now adorn the walls.



### 2 ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL

An unmatched masterpiece of gothic architecture in Britain, the chapel is a sight to behold – and, as a royal mausoleum, is the final resting place of ten monarchs.



### 3 WATERLOO CHAMBER

Among George IV's many changes was the creation of a massive chamber dedicated to the Battle of Waterloo, fought five years before he came to the throne.



### 4 GRAND RECEPTION ROOM

Formerly Edward III's great hall, the 30-metre-long room is among the finest in the Rococo-style in the castle.



### 5 QUEEN MARY'S DOLLS' HOUSE

Built for George V's wife in the 1920s, this 1:12 house is a miniature marvel, complete with electricity, running water and working lifts.



### 6 CHANGING THE GUARD

The ceremony usually takes place at 11am on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The guards march through the town before the change, which takes place inside the castle.

## “Cromwell used the castle as a Royalist prison”

of danger, “knowing it could stand a siege if need be”.

By then, however, time had taken its toll, leaving the buildings in disrepair and on the small side compared to modern residences. Before major improvements could be made, the British Civil Wars erupted. They saw Oliver Cromwell use the castle as a headquarters and Royalist prison. Charles I himself was held there and, after his execution, his body interred beneath St George's Chapel. With the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, Charles II brought back regal grandeur back by modernising the apartments with the most splendid baroque interiors in England.

Some 18th-century monarchs preferred other royal residences, but George III returned to Windsor

and started transforming it into a more gothic-style palace. His son, George IV – whose reputation for extravagance was well earned – spent more than £300,000 (almost £250 million today) on renovations. The works included raising the height of the Round Tower, building more towers and battlements, refurnishing the apartments, extending St George's Hall, creating the Grand Corridor and Waterloo Chamber, and improving the gardens.

Although he only enjoyed it for 18 months before his death in 1830, the Windsor of today is thanks to George IV – he cemented its importance once and for all.

Victoria used it as the principal royal residence for entertaining guests and state visits, placing it

at the heart of the British Empire. Following Albert's death in 1861, the queen spent so much time there that she became known as the ‘Widow of Windsor’.

Monarchs have continued to call Windsor a home away from Buckingham Palace, and it remains the weekend destination for Elizabeth II. While this affects which areas are open to the public and can cause Windsor to be closed entirely on occasion, visitors are certainly welcome at the largest inhabited castle in the world.

By the end of 2018, there will be a new entrance, a café in the medieval undercroft and space to explore how – even though kings and queens come and go – Windsor has been a constant for nearly a millennium. 📍

## WHY NOT VISIT...

For the win in Windsor...

### WINDSOR GREAT PARK

A stunning place for a stroll, especially on the tree-lined Long Walk looking towards Windsor Castle. You can also explore it on bicycle or horseback.

[www.windsorgreatpark.co.uk](http://www.windsorgreatpark.co.uk)

### ETON'S NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

This collection of more than 15,000 specimens and items includes a page from Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*. It's only open to the public on Saturday afternoons, but is definitely worth a visit.

[www.etoncollege.com/NatHistMus.aspx](http://www.etoncollege.com/NatHistMus.aspx)

### LEGOLAND

Supposedly, this theme park is aimed at children – but no one has told the adults.

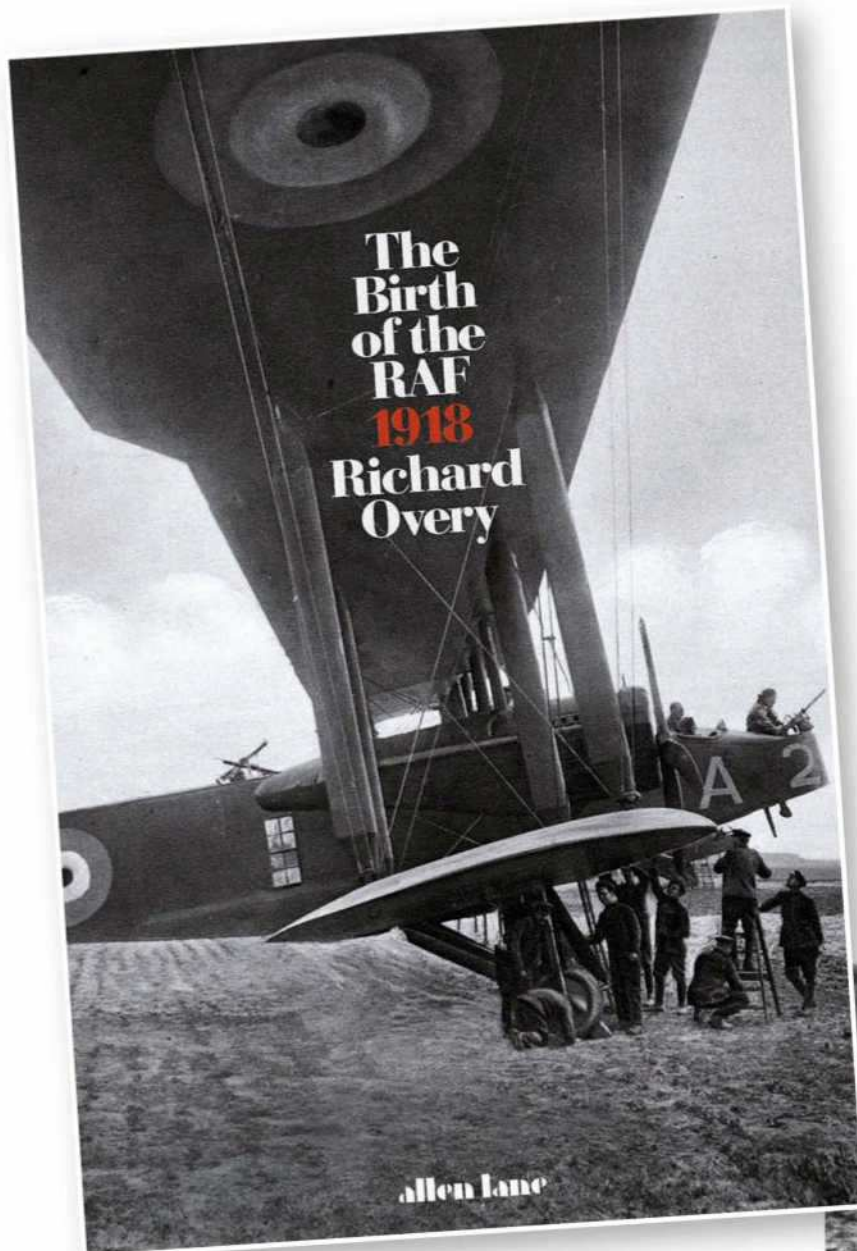
[www.legoland.co.uk](http://www.legoland.co.uk)



# BOOKS

This month's best historical reads

**BOOK  
OF THE  
MONTH**



## The Birth of the RAF, 1918

By Richard Overy

Allen Lane, £14.99, hardback, 160 pages

This year marks the centenary of the formation of the RAF, the world's oldest independent air force. Established in the dying days of World War I – the first conflict that saw significant aerial combat – it would prove an essential element of the armed forces during World War II just a few decades later. Yet the RAF was surprisingly controversial throughout its infancy; as Richard Overy documents in his new book, not everyone was too happy about this new upstart. This is a concise, insightful look at the forces and figures responsible for shaping an organisation that endured against the odds.

**“The RAF was controversial throughout its infancy; not everyone was too happy about this new upstart”**







Army officer Sir David Henderson was one of the architects of the RAF's independence



Most RAF pilots fought in biplanes in WWI; during WWII, these aircraft all but vanished

## MEET THE AUTHOR

WWII historian **Richard Overy** tells us why the pilots of 1918 would be surprised if they could see their air force now, and how George V had more input than you might think

### Why was the RAF formed in 1918?

The Germans really helped to create the RAF. If the German high command had not approved the bombing of London and other towns by aeroplane in the summer of 1917, it is unlikely that there would have been any change in the existing army and navy air forces, such as the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) and the Royal Naval Air Service. The bombing prompted the prime minister, David Lloyd George, to set up a committee to recommend how to cope with it. The subsequent reports called for a new air defence system for London and, above all, an air ministry and independent air force – one that could bomb Germany back.

### Was there any political fallout or disagreement about its creation?

There was a great deal of disagreement. The navy, and many in the army, wanted to prevent the RAF from being formed. One of the sternest critics was Hugh Trenchard, commander of the RFC, who later became known as the 'father of the RAF'. In 1917, he was strongly opposed to the idea. He resented the prospect of an air ministry interfering with what he did and wanted aircraft to support the army on the Western Front as a priority. The navy was never reconciled to the idea of a new upstart service.

### Who are the important characters in the story, and have any of them been overlooked?

Without a doubt Winston Churchill was one of the key characters. He supported the idea of bombing in 1917 and that of a separate air force to do it. As Minister for Air in 1919, he protected the RAF from renewed attacks by the navy, the army and the treasury, and did so again later as Colonial Secretary. One of the other figures often overlooked is David Henderson, the first commander of the RFC, whom Trenchard

considered the true 'father of the RAF'. Henderson was key in giving advice to Lloyd George's committee and a strong advocate of an independent air force.

### What do you think people in 1918 would make of the RAF a century later?

The thing that would astonish them most is the cost and technical sophistication of a modern military aircraft. In 1918, aircraft were still at the wood-and-canvas stage of development, with small engines, open cockpits and primitive navigational equipment. An aircraft could be produced in 1918 for a few thousand pounds, whereas now they cost millions. They would also be surprised at the small size of the RAF. When the war ended in 1918, the RAF boasted 22,647 aircraft. They might also be surprised by the degree of harmony that now exists between the three services as they act together in concert.

In 1918, they saw themselves as defending their own patch against the others.

### What general impressions of the RAF's early years would you like the reader to come away with from the book?

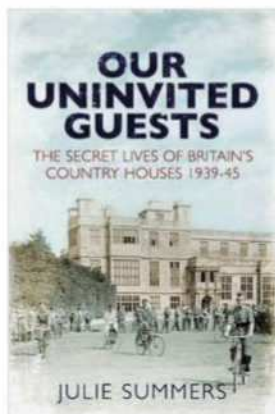
One of the most surprising things about the RAF's founding and survival is the influence that the monarchy had in those days. Time and again, decisions had to be taken to King George V for his final say – on uniforms, on the RAF flag, on the very name 'Royal Air Force'.

Another is the extent to which founding any new service in a state at war is an exceptional event and a unique achievement. So many things could have obstructed the RAF's formation, both in 1918 and in the decade that followed. Trenchard later reflected that luck had played as much a part – a view supported by the history of those early days.



“Founding any new service during a war is an exceptional event”



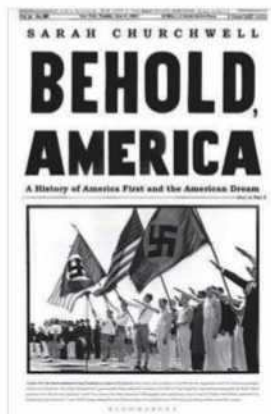


## Our Uninvited Guests: The Secret Life of Britain's Country Houses, 1939-45

By Julie Summers

Simon & Schuster, £20, hardback, 464 pages

Far from the sleepy days of dinner parties and croquet on the lawn, World War II saw country houses across Britain enlisted in the war effort. Children were billeted in their dormitories, soldiers used them as lodgings and secret service officials used them as training grounds. This book explores some of the finest properties to chart a remarkable story.

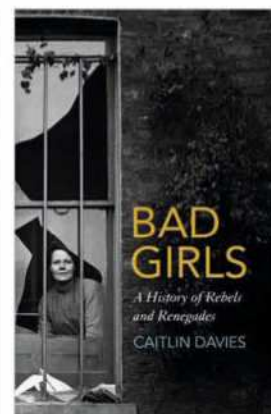


## Behold, America: A History of America First and the American Dream

By Sarah Churchwell

Bloomsbury Publishing, £20, hardback, 384 pages

Whatever you might think of Donald Trump's bid to 'Make America Great Again', it's a slogan that highlights the way that the US continues to wrestle with both its past and its current place in the world. Exploring the roots of the twin ideas of 'America First' and 'the American Dream' across a century, this rich, complex history deserves to be read.

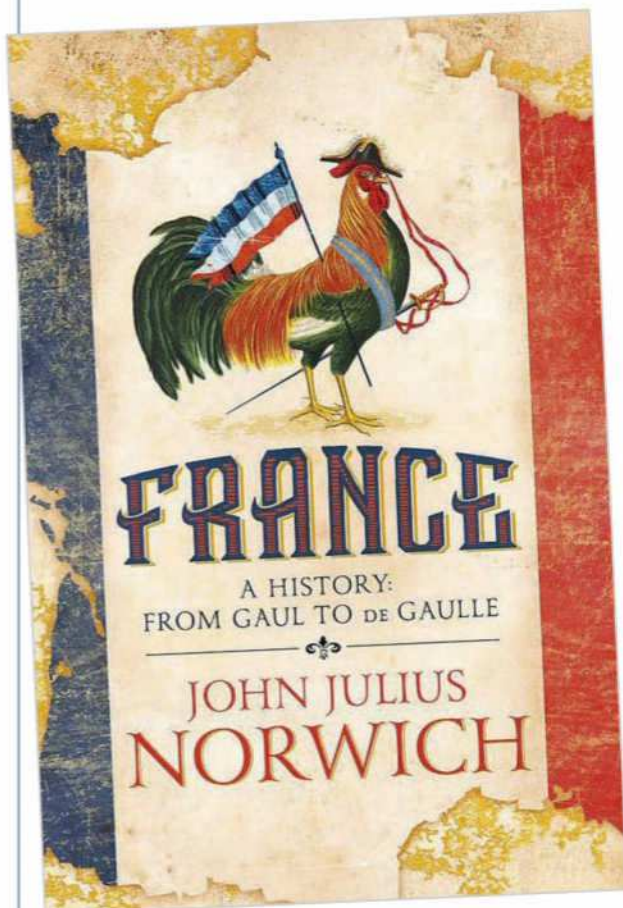


## Bad Girls: A History of Rebels and Renegades

By Caitlin Davies

John Murray, £20, hardback, 384 pages

Women who broke the law throughout much of British history often also broke another taboo: what was expected of their gender. Caitlin Davies' book explores HMP Holloway, the London lockup where many of these female felons were incarcerated. It's fascinating both for its portrait of larger-than-life women and the ways in which they were regarded by wider society during the 19th and 20th centuries.

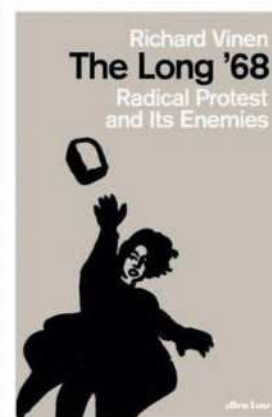


## France: A History from Gaul to de Gaulle

By John Julius Norwich

John Murray, £25, hardback, 400 pages

Always a warm, welcoming guide, John Julius Norwich takes us on a historical tour of France from its earliest days to the 21st century. Inspired by the belief that people in Britain know surprisingly little about their European neighbour, he brings to life a rich cast of characters (Charlemagne, Napoleon and Marie Antoinette among them) and often rip-roaring events. A highly entertaining introduction to a fascinating nation.



## The Long '68: Radical Protest and Its Enemies

By Richard Vinen

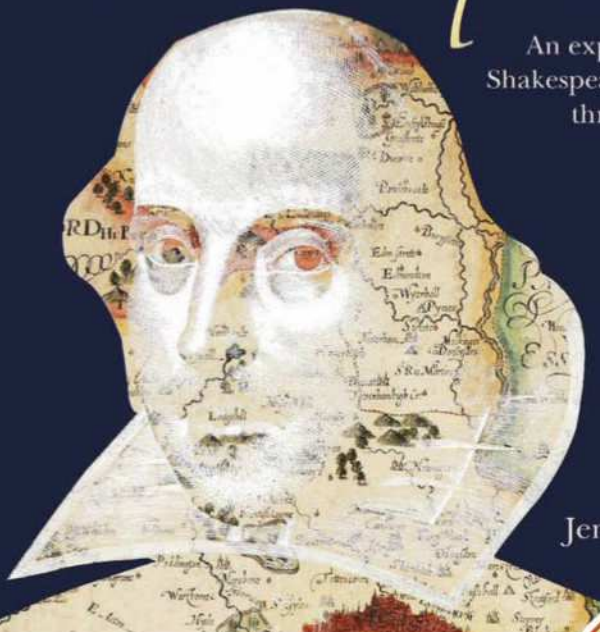
Allen Lane, £20, hardback, 464 pages

Looking back at 1968 from a distance of half a century, how far did its radicals and revolutionaries – who fought for everything from political freedom to rights for women and gay people – really change the world? This globetrotting, big-picture history considers what was won, as well as the brutal backlash sparked by the extraordinary events of this pivotal year.



# Mapping Shakespeare

An exploration of Shakespeare's worlds through maps



Jeremy Black

**VISUAL  
BOOK  
OF THE  
MONTH**

## Mapping Shakespeare

By Jeremy Black

Conway, £25, hardback, 192 pages

William Shakespeare and cartography may not seem like natural bedfellows, but this visual history is highly effective at grounding 'the Bard' in the physical world of his day. Featuring scores of beautifully reproduced maps, it takes us from the 16th-century streets of Stratford-upon-Avon to the far-flung places and peoples that populate some of his best-loved works. In doing so, it also works as a vivid social history of a fascinating period.

**"It grounds 'the Bard' in the physical world of his day"**



Lovingly illustrated, the maps act as guide to the changing realm in which Shakespeare lived – marked by the last Tudor and first Stuart monarchs





# POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

Send your historical landmark pics to [photos@historyrevealed.com](mailto:photos@historyrevealed.com)  
message us on Facebook or use [#historyrevpostcards](#) on Twitter and Instagram

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## HOLY ISLAND, NORTHUMBERLAND

“ As well as a passionate photographer, I’m also a landscape designer. I find concrete in the landscape beautiful, because it’s such a contrast to the surroundings. I have photographed war defences all around the coast of Britain, but these were particularly striking because they’re near to the causeway to Holy Island. ”

Taken by: Ann Walker [@anns\\_photos\\_designs](#)








## WHITBY ABBEY, YORKSHIRE


“ I’ve always loved local history and the abbey is a wonderful and interesting site. As an amateur photographer, it seemed right that I should try and capture a scene a little different from other photographers. After a failed attempt, I finally got this image. ”

**Taken by:** Simon Blackwood  
 @simonblackwoodgallery



## DIRLETON, EAST LoTHIAN

“ This is Dirleton Castle, a 13th-century medieval fortress. It’s hauntingly beautiful and I’ve revisited it many times. If these walls could tell stories, one would be of my wedding day, where under the watchful eyes of many guests, my late father walked me down the aisle. ”

**Taken by:** Wendy TW Pang  
 @wendytwpang

### FEELING INSPIRED?

Send your snaps to us and we’ll feature a selection every issue.  
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**NEXT MONTH**

ON SALE **20 MAY**

.....

# HITLER

## RISE OF A DICTATOR

How an unknown politician  
hoodwinked nations and  
became a monster

**ALSO NEXT MONTH...**

**THE WOMEN WHO FOUGHT AGAINST THE VOTE**  
**BIRTH OF THE CIRCUS** **THE BATTLE OF BARNET**  
**A FILTHY HISTORY OF TOILETS** **THE RISE OF**  
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GETTY X2



# READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch – share your opinions on history and our magazine

## CANINE COURAGE

I read with interest your article in the March issue regarding animals that have been awarded medals, in particular the Dickin Medal (Q&A, p73). It brought to mind a story told to me by one of World War II's true heroes, former signalman Bob McGill. Bob was serving

## LETTER OF THE MONTH

**“He now has legendary status and a statue dedicated to him”**

in the Royal Navy and had an encounter with Able Seaman Just Nuisance, the only dog to be officially enlisted in the South African Navy.

Just Nuisance was known to stow away on various vessels. The authorities in Simon's Town radioed Bob's ship to enquire as to the

whereabouts of the missing Just Nuisance. Bob's captain asked him “Do we have an Able Seaman Nuisance on board?” Bob pointed to a large Great Dane lying next to him. Bob's ship had to about turn and it was Bob's duty to take the dog down the gangplank and back to its home.

## TOP DOG

Know of any more stalwart animals like Just Nuisance? Drop us a line and tell us about them

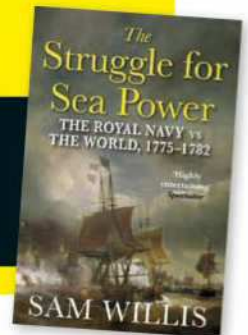
Just Nuisance died in sad circumstance and was awarded a full military funeral. He now has legendary status and there is a statue to him in Simon's Town.

**Bill Turner,**  
Barrow-in-Furness

## Editor's reply:

I'm a fan of Simon, the only cat to receive the Dickin Medal. Though wounded, he managed to rid his ship of rats and raise morale in 1949.

**Bill wins a paperback copy of *The Struggle for Sea Power: The Royal Navy vs the World, 1775-1782* by Sam Willis (2018). It tells the story of how the 13 isolated colonies of the New World began their war for independence against Britain, a conflict that would eventually involve 22 navies fighting across five oceans.**



## ASSASSINATION

A closer look at how the fatal moments of President John F. Kennedy's life unfolded

THE THREE SHOTS THAT KILLED KENNEDY

THE SINGLE/MAGIC BULLET THEORY

DALLAS

THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

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**HAPLESS HICKEY**  
Matthew reminds us that an unfortunate Secret Service accident is also mooted as a cause of JFK's death

Finally caught up on @HistoryRevMag only to find @theAliceRoberts named @TheEES founder #AmeliaEdwards as her 'unsung hero'! 2018 is a good year to change that... @CGraves88

Look at lovely @alnwiccastle aka #harrypotter #hogwarts castle in @HistoryRevMag @VisitNland @thebooktrailer

## AVOIDABLE ACCIDENT?

I enjoyed your feature about the Kennedy assassination (March issue, p28), but I'm surprised you didn't include the Secret Service theory, proposed by Howard Donahue, which suggests that Kennedy was shot by two gunmen. Oswald fired the first shot, which hit the concrete, and the second, which hit JFK in the neck. Oswald's bullets were typical full metal jacket drive-through bullets, whereas the third bullet, which hit JFK's skull, was a fragile one designed to explode on impact.

The theory states that when JFK was shot in the neck, Secret

Service agent George Hickey, who was riding in the car behind the president's, took out his rifle, stood up, and as the car lunged forward he lost his balance and accidentally pulled the trigger.

There's a photo of Hickey holding the rifle during the period of the assassination. Ten witnesses testified they could smell gunpowder at street level. The theory claims that, based on the trajectory, the third bullet came from behind.

**Matthew Shearn,** via email

## POLES APART

In the March issue, you had a piece about the 999 service (Q&A, p73). When I started at BT, then the Post Office Engineering Department, most houses that had phones were fed by two open copper



Great issue  
@HistoryRevMag - thanks  
for all the interesting articles and  
inspiration for places to visit.  
@sarsar242

wires from poles. These wires could become loose and could be blown together, causing a connection to the exchange and dialling the digits one and two. I was told this is why 999 was chosen, as it would be difficult for the loose wires to pulse out without someone deliberately dialling 999.

David Shelton, Worthing

## WORLDWIDE PRAISE

I don't normally write into magazines, being a journalist myself, based in Sydney (originally from London), but I just wanted to say I really enjoy your magazine. Thanks for not only producing a great mag, but for having it distributed across the world.

Jennifer Fletcher, via email

## Editor's reply:

Thanks for your email Jennifer, it's great to know that *History Revealed* is enjoyed by readers from around the world.

## PRETTY AS A PIC

I received my January issue recently, just got to Postcards from the Past (p90). Wow, what a fantastic feature. I must begin going through photos of past adventures that may be worthy. Love the new format and continue to enjoy my monthly edition.

Jim, Toronto, via email

## BUFFALO THRILL

Regarding your article on secret societies in the February issue (Top Ten, p62), can I bring your attention to the 'Water Buffaloes'? My great-grandfather was a member but I know very little about them.

Bob Wadsworth, via email

## Editor's reply:

According to our research, the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes is one of the largest UK



## HUNGER FOR THE TRUTH

Kern points out that the victims of Stalinist terror-famines were widespread, with millions perishing from starvation and disease

fraternal organisations. Believed to have started in 1822, the order follows the values of justice, truth and philanthropy, and helps members through hardship as well as carrying out charity work.

## IN THE LINE OF BOOTY

The rightful owner debate (Top 10, March issue) can become an endless quagmire. If things were stolen, sold by an individual who was not a rightful owner, or taken as war booty, the items should be returned to the original owner. Theft is theft, whether committed by an individual or a government. Having said that, I do believe objects of historical significance should be preserved for the future so they're not destroyed for propaganda purposes.

Greg R Snyder, Colorado

## MASS STARVATION

Thank you for putting together such a great magazine with a variety of different stories from the past. However, I was disappointed that in the Irish Famine article (April issue, p52) you referred by name to the Holodomor as a "hunger shame".

Everything you reported was sadly true, but the idea that this was aimed at the Ukrainian people as an ethnic group is a recent myth. Millions of Russians also died due to Stalin's policies. The policies that were responsible for this famine were directed at lower classes rather than specific national groups. Ukrainian nationalists are very keen to be the only victims and the 'Holodomor' actually ignores the deaths and suffering of many other people.

Kern Vickers, Yeovil

## ARE YOU A WINNER?

The lucky winners of the crossword from issue 53 are:  
**G Davies**, Salford  
**Richard Stubbs**, Torquay  
**Roger Morris**, Cardiff

Congratulations! You've each won a copy of **China: A History in Objects** by **Jessica Harrison Hall**, RRP £29.95 - a visually rich introduction into the history of China from the Neolithic Age to the present.

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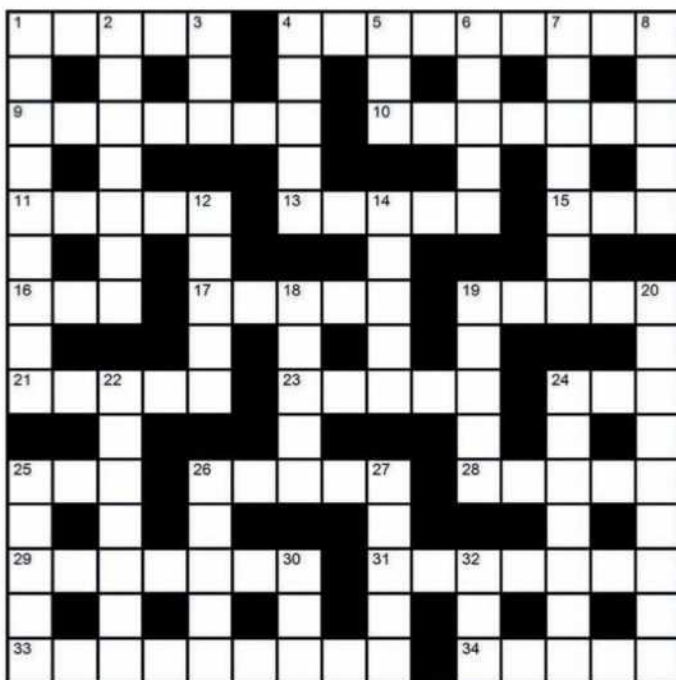
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# CROSSWORD N° 55

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## ACROSS

- 1 \_\_\_\_ MacDonald (d.1790), Jacobite heroine (5)  
 4 Abraham or Jacob, for example (9)  
 9 WS \_\_\_\_ (1836–1911), librettist noted for his collaborations with Arthur Sullivan (7)  
 10 New Zealand city founded in 1848 as a Scottish Free Church settlement (7)  
 11 Kingdom in the southwest Pacific formerly known as the Friendly Islands (5)  
 13 Mesoamerican culture, thrived 14th–16th centuries (5)  
 15 See 25  
 16 Constellation associated with the Nemean Lion (3)  
 17 Wylan Hugh \_\_\_\_ (1907–73), English poet (5)

- 19 Name of a historic London statue, paired with Gog (5)  
 21 Josephine \_\_\_\_ (1906–75), Missouri-born French-American entertainer (5)  
 23 Earl of \_\_\_\_, title held by Robert Devereux, a favourite of Elizabeth I (5)  
 24 Old Testament character, famed for his sufferings (3)  
 25/15 English emigrant to America (1736–84), leader of the 'Shakers' (3,3)  
 26 Robert Falcon \_\_\_\_ (1868–1912), Antarctic explorer (5)  
 28 City in Saudi Arabia, birthplace of Muhammad (5)  
 29 In Greek myth, a princess who helped Theseus escape the Labyrinth (7)

- 31 Israeli legislature, first convened in 1949 (7)  
 33 Historic port city in Brittany, once notorious for piracy (5-4)  
 34 In feudal England, a unit of land granted by the Crown (5)

## DOWN

- 1 1996 novel by Chuck Palahniuk (5,4)  
 2 Novel by Virginia Woolf, or a character in *As You Like It* (7)  
 3 'Honest \_\_\_\_', nickname of the 16th US president (3)  
 4 Ancient city in Jordan, carved into the rock face (5)  
 5 Big band leader or bomber Kaczynski, perhaps (3)  
 6 Order of classical architecture (5)  
 7 'The \_\_\_\_', anthem of the UK Labour Party (3,4)  
 8 Conrad \_\_\_\_ (1932–99), West Indies batsman (5)  
 12 Red \_\_\_\_ (1915–2004), Texan oil-well firefighter (5)  
 14 North African city, sacked by the Romans in 146 BC (5)  
 18 San \_\_\_\_, California city incorporated in 1850 (5)  
 19 Hiram \_\_\_\_ (1840–1916), US-born inventor of the first fully automatic machine gun (5)  
 20 Territory south of Spain, ceded to Britain in 1713 (9)  
 22 Raft on which Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl sailed the Pacific Ocean in 1947 (3,4)  
 24 Mississippi city, named after the 7th US president (7)  
 25 Abigail \_\_\_\_ (1744–1818), US First Lady (5)  
 26 Anwar \_\_\_\_ (1918–81), President of Egypt (5)  
 27 Capital city known as Edo until 1869 (5)  
 30 Acronym for a Basque separatist organisation (3)  
 32 Tree species ravaged by a fungal disease in the UK since the late 1960s (3)

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## SOLUTION N° 53



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**AMSTERDAM, c1935**

Anne Frank, a Jewish girl of around five or six, looks at her watch while standing outside her father's office in Amsterdam. Her family had fled to the city from their native Germany shortly after Hitler's rise to power. Five years later, Amsterdam would be occupied by the Nazis; two years after that, the Franks would be forced into hiding in a secret annex. Anne took with her the present she had received for her 13th birthday, a red-and-white chequered book, to use as a diary.



ANNE FRANK FONDs BASEL/GETTY



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1815: Napoleon's Waterloo Sunset



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